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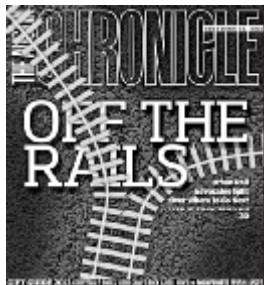
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our new style column
on page 42.



The Good Eye

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Postmarks

DON'T ALTER DOG PARK

Dear Editor,

I moved to Austin, Texas, just last month from the progressive and prosperous East Coast state of Maryland. I work for a business located in the Washington, D.C., metro area. Because I am able to telecommute, I was free to choose any place I desired for my permanent residence. A major draw for me to Austin was the recreational and dog-friendly nature of the city as a whole, and in particular, the large off-leash park at Auditorium Shores. To hear now that the size of that area will be significantly reduced and altered is a direct blow to my decision ["Turf Fight at Auditorium Shores," News, Dec. 6]. As a pet owner, shelter volunteer, and foster home for rescue dogs, I understand the need for exercise and enrichment. I also come from a city with very small dog parks, one in which the number of incidents in the dog parks is higher due to their smaller size and the contained nature of the dogs in them. I vehemently oppose the city's plan to alter Auditorium Shores, and feel that a better solution is entirely viable if the PARD, Council, and mayor are willing to further explore the options. You are fortunate here to have a city full of intelligent, involved citizens. You also have a reputation for your public support of health, wellness, recreation, and animal welfare. Take advantage of your resources, and make a decision that does not jeopardize the canine, human, and economic engines of this great city, lest you lose them all to another metropolitan place.

Doray Sitko

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or email address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

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SHOW WAS A BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT

Dear Editor,

The *Chronicle's* review of the Hideout Theatre's *A Bedtime Gorey* [Exhibitionism, Dec. 6] was way too generous, at least compared to the show that I saw during WaffleFest. I absolutely love the Hideout's improv shows and almost always leave their shows in awe of the patience, sharp wit, and storytelling abilities of their improvisers. The caliber of improv that I see there is fantastic, especially from troupes like Parallelogramophonograph (their 500th show was mind-blowing). My respect for the Hideout is exactly why I was bitterly disappointed and angry when I left the Gorey main stage show. Though filled with seasoned improvisers, it felt like a beginner's show. The entertainment of the forced theme was over in the first 10 minutes, and the actors spent most of the show coming up with different names for boobs and genitalia, devising drawn-out, pointless games, and not developing any sort of interesting conflict or storyline.

continued on p.14

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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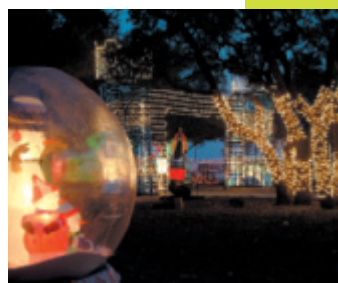


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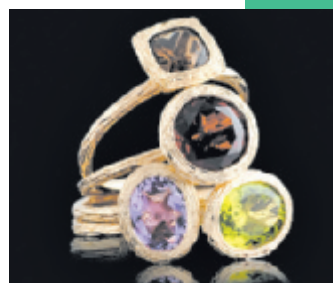


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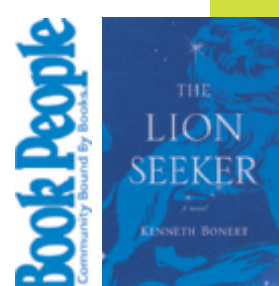


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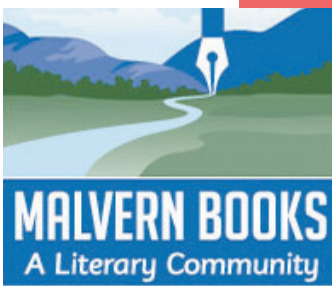


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POSTMARKS continued from p.8



I strongly agree that the shadow-play portion was an "unfortunate miscalibration." Their mime was basic and sloppy, and the mechanics of light and shadow were not understood nor utilized in any interesting way. The narration by the butler was excellent to a point, but there was far too much pressure on him to completely carry those sections of the show. The only person who maintained any sort of cohesiveness to the show was Kaci Beeler, though the "yes, and" nature of improv dragged down even a performer of her caliber. I'm not saying I never laughed or didn't enjoy parts of it, but overall, it felt like a complete waste of my time and money. I highly respect the owners and the performers at the Hideout Theatre, and I sincerely hope that they continue to raise the bar for great improv and not sink into cheap themes and crude humor.

Sarah Eshelman

DIVEST FOSSIL FUEL INVESTMENTS

Dear Editor,

When we invest money, we are showing approval for that entity in which we invest. When we divest, we are showing disapproval. Divestment has been used in the past as a means to effect social and political change. College campuses were on the leading edge of the anti-apartheid divestment movement, and Nelson Mandela acknowledged the impact of campus divestment as a factor in the overthrow of apartheid.

Today, many college campuses are once again looking to divestment to make a major statement. Fossil fuel companies have five times more oil, coal, and gas in known reserves than can be safely burned in order to keep the planet under 2 degrees Celsius of warming. This means that fossil fuel

companies must keep 80% of known reserves underground in order to keep the planet livable.

This is an urgent situation, and the current political state makes it unlikely that change will come willingly from our government. In our country, corporations have unlimited ability to give politicians money, and since the fossil fuel companies are the most profitable, they have the most political power.

I represent a student activist group called Fossil Free Texas. We call on the University of Texas at Austin to divest their general endowment fund from the top 200 fossil fuel companies. Many cities and colleges across the country have already made the commitment. Austin should be next. We need to send a message to these companies that we value our planet more than we value their stocks.

Ethan Howley

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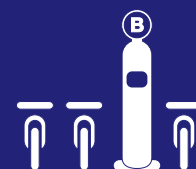


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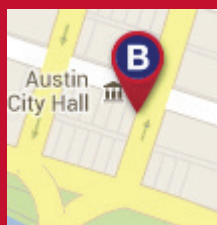


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Education and civil rights activists joined the National Education Association and other groups at the Capitol on Dec. 6 to urge Congress to pass immigration reform legislation.

Lehmberg's Scarlet Letter

COUNTY ATTORNEY ESCAMILLA HAS DISGRACED HIS OFFICE

I canceled two doctors' appointments – for nagging things that I need to take care of soon – to attend the Rosemary Lehmberg removal trial this week. After two days of watching the Travis County attorneys present the State's case against Lehmberg, I'm really glad they can't get their hands on my medical records. They'd be prosecuting me for malingering, malfeasance, bad excuses, and a "pattern of conduct" detrimental to my job performance.

Travis County District Attorney Lehmberg's April arrest for driving while intoxicated and her subsequent deplorable behavior toward arresting officers and at the jail was a public embarrassment, for which she quickly pleaded guilty, served her sentence, repeatedly apologized, and endured lengthy public humiliation. Travis County Attorney David Escamilla's prosecution of Lehmberg – for that's what this nominally "civil lawsuit" became – was a public disgrace, which Escamilla and his staff could have prevented, but for which they themselves will suffer few ill consequences, and

after which they will likely never think to apologize. They've taken bad law and almost no precedent and turned the case into yet another public shaming of Lehmberg and consequent media circus (see "Lehmberg NOT Removed," p.26). In court, I found myself waiting for Asst. C.A. James Collins to

bring out the stocks so the D.A. could be placed in them, and we could all start throwing rotten vegetables at her, out in front of the courthouse.

Neither side was talking for the record, but sources with the C.A.'s office have let it be known that Escamilla believed his hands were effectively tied by the initial citizens' removal lawsuit, and that they've had to pursue "the process" in order to apply the law as written. Moreover, they suggested (in and out of court) that Lehmberg's drinking had become more of a problem than she has acknowledged, and that (as they've implied in court) she was deceiving her doctors and the public that she has earnestly taken remedial steps to end her drinking and stay in rehab.



Passing the Buck

Well, baloney. I watched the State attempting to construct its argument – mostly by (repeatedly) reconstructing in exhausting detail the April 12 DWI and aftermath that is not only well-known but legally well-settled, and then to turn it into some sort of template that would underlie all of Lehmberg's future actions. They couldn't really manage it, and I wasn't the only one in the courtroom who found it troubling. Judge David Peeples was clearly puzzled by the State's relentless focus on a DWI that had already occurred and been adjudicated, finally asking Collins, "Are you asking me to predict the future" and somehow anticipate that in some future circumstances, Lehmberg might again drink and drive?

Collins and co-counsel have responded that they're trying to show a "pattern of

continued on p.18

Headlines

- Should be quite a bit of fur flying at **City Council** today (Dec. 12), although if the **Auditorium Shores** improvement plan (complete with restricted off-leash area) is likely postponed. See "Council: Dem Ol' Railroad Blues," p.26.
- On Friday, the **Central Corridor Advisory Group** (under City Council, Capital Metro, and CAMPO) recommended the East Riverside and Highland "sub-corridors" as initial routes for the urban rail system likely to be considered by Austin voters next November. Not without controversy: See "Urban Rail: Which Way to Connect?" p.30.
- After passionate closing arguments from both sides, Judge **David Peeples** ruled Wednesday that D.A. **Rosemary Lehmberg** will not be removed from office, denying County Atty. **David Escamilla's** petition. See "Lehmberg NOT Removed," p.26.
- **Austin Energy** is being criticized by environmentalists for cuts to its **solar rebate program**. On Dec. 4, the up-front rebate dropped from \$1.50 per watt of installed generation to \$1.25 for private owners, and compensation dropped from 12 cents per kilowatt-hour produced to 10 cents for new commercial solar projects.
- Following last week's release of his former wife **Fran Keller**, **Dan Keller** was freed from prison on Thursday, Dec. 5. The Kellers were imprisoned for 21 years for the alleged sexual assault of a 3-year-old girl – a crime few believe ever happened. See Newsdesk online, Dec. 6.
- Judge **Larry Meyers**, currently the longest serving GOP member of the all-GOP Court of Criminal Appeals, Texas' highest criminal appellate court, announced this week that he will jump ship – times two: He will leave the CCA to run for a seat on the **Texas Supreme Court**, and will **switch to the Democratic Party** for his run.
- That was just one of a flurry of last-minute **election filings**; see p.20 for more details.
- Former **Cancer Prevention and Research Institute** of Texas chief commercialization officer **Jerald "Jerry" Cobbs** was indicted by a Travis County Grand Jury on a felony charge of securing execution of a document by deception. The \$3 billion cancer fund – one of Gov. **Rick Perry's** pet projects – has been accused of awarding grants without sufficient business or scientific review.
- "I was able to feel my toes again by noon Monday." That was state Sen. **Kirk Watson**, commenting on the Waco cold while congratulating the long-suffering Baylor Bears football team on their Dec. 7 victory over the UT Longhorns and capture of the Big 12 Championship. Meanwhile, UT Coach **Mack Brown** is fighting off widespread rumors that he will step down after the season.
- The **Austin Aquarium** received its temporary occupancy permit on Monday, just in time for its planned opening to annual pass holders today, Dec. 12. The aquarium, which has drawn criticism for its owners' seeming penchant for skirting animal welfare laws and city building rules, is slated to open to the public on Dec. 22. See "Aquarium Partner Gets a Year in Fed Tank," Dec. 6.

QUOTE of the WEEK



"I was more intoxicated than I could believe."

– Travis County District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg recounting the night of her DUI arrest.

POINT AUSTIN continued from p.17

conduct” and – explicitly – to stamp Lehmberg with the scarlet A of “ALCOHOLIC.” But their medical evidence didn’t show that, their submission of Lehmberg’s prior liquor receipts was trivial and irrelevant, the D.A. has apparently stopped drinking and pursued effective treatment, and both her doctors and Wednesday’s queue of well-known character witnesses made it abundantly clear that Lehmberg’s past drinking had not, in any way, affected her professional conduct nor her office’s work.

In short, the county attorney did not have a case, and should never have pursued this lawsuit after the original “citizen” suits were dismissed. In his video deposition Wednesday, he attempted to wash his hands of the suit and blame it on an abstraction called “the State.” He should have instead been willing to take the heat and announce simply, “There are insufficient grounds for removal.”

A Disgraceful Day

I’m no teetotaler, but I have no patience for drunks and even less for mean drunks, which both the video evidence and Lehmberg’s own testimony reflect she became when she let her evening drinking rule her moods. *Driving* while intoxicated – even the day after the funeral of a close friend – is inexcusable, and Lehmberg was rightfully arrested and punished. And I don’t consider it a bad thing that she spent a few weeks in the Travis County jail. DWI or no, it would be beneficial if every criminal prosecutor were required to spend some time residing in the environs where they’re always so eager – and politically rewarded – for sending other people. From the available evidence, Lehmberg has personally and psychologically benefited from her extremely mortifying wake-up call.

All this said, enough is enough. Sam Biscoe, Bob Honts, Mack Martinez, Gonzalo Barrientos, Mike Krusee, Eddie Rodriguez, Naomi Gonzalez, Wilfred Aguilar, Ann Richards, Bob Bullock, etc., etc. What do all of these names, plucked from memory, have in common? They are or were all Texas public officials who either received DWIs or had serious, documented drinking problems. Not a single one of them was ever the subject of a removal lawsuit, let alone a lawsuit brought by a county attorney who describes himself only as a “relator” acting on behalf of the State of Texas.

On Wednesday afternoon, Judge Peeples immediately ruled that Lehmberg would not be removed – any other decision would have been a travesty. This nonsense never should have been allowed to get this far, and the Travis County Attorney could have simply ended it. To apply an obscure Prohibition-era state law – enacted when it was literally illegal, under federal law, to possess alcohol – to a one-time DWI by a longtime public servant who has otherwise had a clean and distinguished record, is not only a violation of equal protection under the law, it’s a disgrace to the institutions and citizens of Travis County. ■

Poor People to AE: We’re Not Deadbeats

NEW ORDINANCE GIVES NEEDY RATEPAYERS A PAYMENT PLAN THEY CAN WORK WITH

Poor people and needy seniors have a hard time catching a break once they get behind on their electricity bill. But last week, on a vote of 6-1, City Council approved an ordinance that provides more breathing room for residential customers trying to climb their way out of mounting utility debt.

For **Carol Bierzdycki**, executive director of consumer advocacy group **Texas ROSE** – Ratepayers’ Organization to Save Energy – the ordinance couldn’t have passed soon enough. She had spent most of early fall just trying to get a meeting with **Austin**

Energy officials to discuss restructuring the utility’s delinquent payment plan – a system that she believed worked against, not for, low-income customers and those with sudden hardships. Too many people were getting disconnected or threatened with disconnects, and she and other low-income advocates were running themselves ragged trying to intervene on their behalf. After hitting one dead end after another, Bierzdycki turned to City Council offices for help, with a goal of creating a more flexible payment plan for needy ratepayers.

With some nudging from City Hall, AE assembled a citizen steering committee to draw up new policy for the long term. In the short term, Council Member **Kathie Tovo** took the lead in developing what she called a “stop-gap” ordinance (with drafting assistance from Bierzdycki), which went into effect immediately upon passage. Mayor **Lee Leffingwell** cast the lone no vote, citing concerns about unknown costs associated with the new installment plan, which now gives delinquent customers up to 24 months to make “reasonable payments” in equal installments, without running the risk of getting their electricity turned off.

The vote took place Dec. 5, at Council’s monthly **Austin Energy Committee** meet-

Kathie Tovo



JOHN ANDERSON

THEN THERE'S THIS
BY AMY SMITH

ing, which also served as a special-called meeting to take action on the ordinance.

AE officials did not support the action, and made clear their concerns that such a measure, even if it’s temporary, would add more layers and cost to the collections process. They suggested that delinquent customers may simply take advantage of another opportunity to slack off on their utility bills. And while supporters of the ordinance argued that too many people were getting disconnected, or threatened with disconnects, Deputy General Manager **Kerry Overton** countered with statistics showing that only a small percentage of people get their electricity turned off.

CATASTROPHIES HAPPEN

Ruby Roa, a member of **Austin Interfaith** and **Ladies of Charity**, took strong issue with the implication that late-paying customers would try to game the system under the ordinance. As a former AE employee charged with collecting delinquent payments, Roa boasted that she was one of the most energetic people when it came to shaking down customers for payment.

But times are harder now. Rents have gone up, health care costs are breaking personal bank accounts, and Austin’s poor population has grown along with the rest of the city. “We’re not talking about deadbeats here,” Roa said. “We’re talking about poor, working families, people like you and I that maybe ... they’ve gotten sick, and they’ve had some catastrophic emergency and they’re not able to pay these utility bills. And when we call Austin Energy, we’re not getting anywhere.”

Consumer advocacy groups got a boost from one of their expert witnesses, **John Howat**, a senior analyst at the Boston-based **National Consumer Law Center**, which works on regulatory policies on behalf of low-income people. He said that a review of AE’s existing payment-plan policy shows that “only a tiny proportion” of the utility’s payment plans are successfully completed. In order to have an installment plan work, he said, it has to be on what he called reasonable terms, taking into account a person’s actual income and expenditures. “If we want and expect these payment plans to fail, then make a repayment term that’s not reasonable and that’s not affordable,” he said, adding that the “reasonableness component” appears to be missing from AE’s current policy. Howat told Council that ordinances like the one proposed are fairly common in other cities with large populations of people living in poverty. “You would not be breaking any new ground,” he said.

Indeed, Tovo wasn’t trying to break new ground, but wanted a temporary solution to the delinquent-payment hurdle. “How can we prevent what we all know is going on because we receive emails about ... people and families who are in a position of having their utilities disconnected and in jeopardy of losing their housing.” So as Tovo saw it in urging passage of the ordinance, the issue centered on getting some protections in place for customers to, as she put it, “help them be successful to chip away at that debt, and help the utility ... collect the debt that’s owed to them.” ■

CIVICS 101

THURSDAY 12

SAVE OUR SPRINGS HOLIDAY PARTY SOS promises the most rockin’ holiday party and silent auction yet. 6pm-12mid. Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal. Free. www.sosalliance.org.

FRIDAY 13

CAN END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION The Community Advancement Network awards Travis Co. Judge Sam Biscoe. 3-4:30pm. Free. www.caction.org.

FACES OF AUSTIN COMPETITION Annual contest is looking for films inspired by Austin life. Winners will premiere during SXSW. Through Jan. 21. www.austintexas.gov/facesofaustin.

SATURDAY 14

LPFM RADIO RECEPTION Mingle with low-power FM radio applicants, and discuss the future of Austin community radio. 11am-2pm. Workers Defense Project, 5604 Manor Rd. Free. www.facebook.com/austinairwaves.

NO MORE SILENCE A Call for Remembrance and Resolve on the anniversary of the Newtown school shooting massacre in Connecticut. 2:30pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second. www.momsdemandaction.org.

NEED HEALTH COVERAGE? APL brings you certified assistance. Noon-4pm. Ruiz Library, 1600 Grove. library.austintexas.gov.

SUNDAY 15

WORKERS DEFENSE PROJECT CHRISTMAS PARTY WDP invites the community to celebrate a *posada*, complete with singing and a piñata. 5-8pm. Workers Defense Project, 5604 Manor Rd. Free. jazmin@workersdefense.org.

MONDAY 16

AISD BOARD MEETING Weigh in on the future of Austin education. 6:30pm. AISD Admin. Center, 1111 W. Sixth. www.austinisd.org.

THURSDAY 19

PREVENT CLASHES WITH COYOTES The Humane Society partners with the city in response to recent coyote sightings. Seminar includes tips for protecting pets and more. 7-8:30pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second. Free. www.humanesociety.org.

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Brown and Eckhardt Make Some Distinctions

As progressive Democrats, **Andy Brown** and **Sarah Eckhardt** agree on nearly every major issue facing the community – they both oppose the construction of **State Highway 45**, they endorse the **Lone Star Rail** project and other **multimodal transit** options, and they support long-term **water management** plans. But at a candidate forum Monday night, the two **Travis County Judge** candidates did manage to differentiate themselves from each other in one key area: personality.

On that score, if Brown came across as Mr. Affable – joking with moderator **Joy Diaz** and demonstrating his Spanish-language finesse – then Eckhardt left her mark as Ms. Moxie – someone who won't “fade in the heat or run from powerful interests.”

The forum, co-sponsored by **In Fact Daily** (soon to be rebranded as the **Austin Monitor**) and **KUT**, was the first public opportunity the challengers had to lay out their platforms outside the special-interest clubs that candidates routinely attend in seeking their endorsements. The crowd at the **North Door** also heard from the three Dem candidates vying for the Precinct 2 seat on the Commissioners Court – **Garry Brown**, **Richard Jung**, and **Brigid Shea** (see Newsdesk online for debate coverage, and look for more reporting in next week's *Chronicle*).

In the competition to succeed retiring County Judge **Sam Biscoe**, Brown, who most recently chaired the **Travis County Democratic Party**, argued that he was the best candidate for the job based on his record as a uniter and consensus-builder. “I have 20 years of experience of bringing people together to stand up for progressive causes and getting things done,” he noted several times throughout the evening. During his tenure leading the local party, Brown said he raised “more money than ever before” and increased minority turnout by 18% in 21 East Austin precincts. Brown also distinguished his candidacy with calls for more transparency at the county with the creation of an ethics commission and the requirement that lobbyists register, as they do at the city level. Brown also vowed to re-evaluate and reorganize an archaic county government system that hasn't seen any significant structural changes since 1994.



Sarah Eckhardt



Andy Brown

PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

Eckhardt, who left her County Commission Precinct 2 seat in May to run for judge, hammered home her record as a public servant and took several opportunities to tout her campaign slogan of “experience, courage, and heart.” She recounted her days working in the trenches of domestic violence cases as an assistant county attorney and then continuing her advocacy when she arrived on the Commissioners Court in 2006. Once seated, she worked to lower taxes for seniors and defend the reproductive and health care rights of women; she helped secure a \$3.5 million settlement from developers whose construction project polluted the popular **Hamilton Pool** swimming hole in western Travis County, and championed fair wages for workers. She said she also made some tough – albeit not always popular – decisions on how county tax dollars were spent, saying no to tax giveaways to large corporations, and voting against the higher of two salary-hike proposals for sheriff's deputies.

“[The job of] Travis County judge is not an entry-level position and it's not a political stepping stone,” she said. “When you're Travis County judge it's easy to bring people together – you call a meeting. The question is what do you get done and who do you get it done for?”

Eckhardt's tone reflected the tensions that rose between the campaigns last week as the two candidates vied for key endorsements from labor groups. As Michael King wrote for Newsdesk on Dec. 7, the endorsement fireworks began the evening of Dec. 5 at the candidate screening held by **AFSCME Local 1624**. The local had gotten crossways with Eckhardt, over its early decision to support Brown without a public screening of both candidates. Local 1624, which represents 2,500 city and county employees, does not endorse directly – the decision is made by the board of its **PEOPLE** political action committee, which collects funds from politically active union members willing to contribute. The PAC makes recommendations to the Central Labor Council, which, after hearing from candidates in its Dec. 7 session, announced its endorsement of Brown.

– Amy Smith

Parks Board Supports Shrinking Off-Leash Area

A proposed makeover for **Auditorium Shores** that would substantially reduce the size of the park's off-leash dog area won the approval of the **Parks and Recreation Board** Tuesday night. The board voted 5-1 to recommend the plan to City Council, with a suggested requirement that new Downtown multi-family projects include dog runs or play areas. Board member **Bill Abell** cast the dissenting vote. **City Council** is scheduled to consider the plan at its meeting today (Thursday, Dec. 12), but a postponement is likely.

The plan has drawn strong opposition from dog owners who use the park (see last week's “Then There's This”). They accuse Parks officials of deliberately shutting them out of the process in deference to concert and event planner **C3 Presents**, which donated \$3.5 million toward the park's rede-

velopment. Internal emails obtained by the *Austin American-Statesman* bear out claims that the Parks and Rec Department sought to contain and control the message on the park plan and that C3's **Charlie Jones**, according to the *Statesman's* account, did state his desire to move dogs out of Auditorium Shores' east end.

Under the proposed plan, dogs would be banned from the east end's main event lawn, and moved to a 4.7-acre confined off-leash area on the west end – ending decades of off-leash freedom across Auditorium Shores' entire 18 acres. Representatives of the **Austin Parks Foundation**, which formed a partnership with PARD and C3 to navigate the redevelopment, spoke in favor of the plan, as did a rep from the **Trail Foundation**, a **SXSW** event planner, neighborhood activist **David King** (who



Auditorium Shores

JOHN ANDERSON

advocated its community use, not the prospect of more special events), and environmental activist **Scott Johnson**.

Though 53 people had signed up to speak against the proposal, and 26 in favor, the board opted to hear from 10 people from each side to allow, as Chair **Jane Rivera** put it, “people to get home to their families.”

– Amy Smith

CANDIDATE FILINGS

The 2014 primaries looked set to be a snoozefest, until a last-minute deluge of candidate filings on Dec. 9. Yet out of the 21 races on the March 4 ballot in Travis County with a competitive primary, only seven see incumbents fighting for their seats. Statewide, the Democrats saw filing day close with an unexpected boost, as **Court of Criminal Appeals** Judge **Lawrence Meyers** announced he was quitting the GOP to run unopposed next November for the State Supreme Court. On the GOP side, the already overloaded bench to take out U.S. Sen. **John Cornyn** got even more top-heavy as hardcore radical **Steve Stockman** abandoned his fight to retain his southeast Texas congressional seat and became the incumbent's latest primary challenger.

With almost no action in the legislative races, Democrats will be busy on the county races. Aside from the contentious county judge and Precinct 2 County Commissioner races, Pct. 4 Commissioner **Margaret Gómez** faces a last-minute filing by Del Valle ISD trustee **Darla Wegner**, while Municipal Judge **Ramey Ko** takes on County Treasurer **Dolores Ortega Carter**.

However, the old saying about gerrymandered Texas rings true: The primaries will count for more than the November election. Below the statewide offices, only four races – House District 50, County Judge, Pct. 2 Commissioner, and Pct. 2 Justice of the Peace – will be contested by both major parties in the general election.

– Richard Whittaker

TRAVIS COUNTY BALLOT, CONTESTED 2014 PRIMARIES

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U.S. Senator: David M. Alameel, Michael “Fjet” Fjetland, Harry Kim, Keshia Rogers, Maxey Marie Scherr
U.S. Rep. District 25: Stuart Gourd, Marco Montoya
Commissioner of Agriculture: Hugh Asa Fitzsimons III, Richard “Kinky” Friedman, Jim Hogan
Railroad Commissioner: Steve Brown, Dale Henry
County Court at Law Judge #3: Paul Evans, John Lipscombe*
County Judge: Andy Brown, Sarah Eckhardt
County Treasurer: Dolores Ortega Carter*, Ramey Ko
County Commissioner Pct. 2: Garry Brown, Richard Jung, Brigid Shea
County Commissioner Pct. 4: Margaret Gómez*, Darla Wegner
Justice of the Peace Pct. 5: Herb Evans*, James Braxton Forrest



Margaret Gómez

JOHN ANDERSON

REPUBLICANS

Governor: Greg Abbott, Lisa Fritsch, SECEDE Kilgore, Miriam Martinez
U.S. Senator: Curt Cleaver, John Cornyn*, Ken Cope, Chris Mapp, Reid Reasor, Steve Stockman, Dwayne Stovall, Linda Vega
U.S. Rep. District 21: Matt McCall, Lamar Smith*, Michael J. Smith
Lieutenant Governor: David Dewhurst*, Dan Patrick, Jerry Patterson, Todd Staples
Attorney General: Dan Branch, Ken Paxton, Barry Smitherman
Comptroller: Glenn Hegar, Harvey Hilderbran, Debra Medina, Raul Torres
General Land Office Commissioner: George P. Bush, David Watts
Agriculture Commissioner: J. Allen Carnes, Joe Cotten, Tommy Merritt, Sid Miller, Eric Opiela
Railroad Commissioner: Becky Berger, Malachi Boyuls, Wayne Christian, Ryan Sitton
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NEWS

ACC Throws Book at Affordable Care Act

When there's a story about employees getting their hours cut so their employers can avoid giving them health care coverage, it's usually about big, private companies like **Five Guys Burgers** or **Dave and Busters**. It's not institutions of public education. But adjunct lecturers at **Austin Community College** face a pay cut as the college administration dodges giving them coverage under the **Affordable Care Act**.

In a memo sent to adjunct staff on Nov. 22, the administration laid out two changes to its employment rules: changes to the **Teacher Retirement System of Texas**, and to who would be covered by the ACA. The good news is that staff who work more than 20 hours a week will be eligible for TRS benefits. The bad news is that ACC staff were informed that "adjunct faculty may work no more than a total of 28 hours per week." Not only will this mean some staff getting their hours cut, but it also means they will be two hours short of the 30 hours a week required to be classified as full-time under the ACA, meaning the district will not have to provide them health insurance.

The **ACC American Federation of Teachers**, ACC's staff union, is fighting against the change, which they see as yet another blow to employees. The union's vice president for faculty, adjunct associate professor **David J. Albert** said, "We knew this was coming for a while, but it exploded when they sent the Nov. 22 memo." Adjunct faculty association secretary **Becky Villarreal** said the administration had first shown the memo to officers on Nov. 19, but staff are still reeling from how heavily this will hit. She said one colleague of hers at the Cypress Creek Campus faces losing 11 hours of employment a week, just to bring her below that 28-hour line. Villarreal said, "There will be adjuncts losing as much as \$10,000 a year and who will be below the poverty line."

Yet ACC is not alone in cutting hours to avoid ACA compliance. **Dallas Community College** recently rejigged the hours for 2,500 adjuncts to keep them under 30 hours. And next semester, adjuncts at **St. Edward's University** will be limited to teaching six credit hours per semester. However, this is a particularly awkward time for ACC to lose staff support. The board is considering a bond election in 2014 to cover the renovation of the old **Highland Mall** as a campus, and normally the union would be a cheerleader for such actions. But with the administration still covering the costs of the last

round of expansion, and campuses like the 1,500-capacity Elgin well below planned enrollment, staff are furious that their pay is going down as the district covers the operating costs of these empty buildings. However, Albert said he did not blame the trustees, because, "I don't think the board knew what the administration was doing." Teaching staff brought the issue to the board's attention at the Dec. 2 board meeting, and highlighted that it could quickly leave ACC too short on staff to function. Albert said, "When they saw this was being lampooned because it violates their own board policy (on sufficient staffing), they're getting back into it."

Trustee **Tim Mahoney** confirmed that the first he knew about the plan was when he saw the Nov. 22 memo, and that he was "very concerned" that trustees were kept out of the loop until so late. He said, "There are people on the board who are very disturbed about this, for a number of reasons." He argued that it was antithetical to the

"community" part of community college, especially with funding always under threat, and he hopes the issue will be reevaluated when the board next meets on Jan. 21. He said, "In order for us to be engaged constructively with this uncertain future, we need to have a competently organized and engaged faculty and staff, from the highest dean to the most important clerk, and I do not see that memo as an example of that kind of coordination for building a common future."

The memo has put new focus on a whole series of employee concerns about staff positions being cut or downgraded. In the

same memo, hourly employees were capped at 19 hours a week. Similarly, Villarreal currently works as a lecturer and a Learning Lab tutor, so, along with around 50 other employees, is classified as full-time; however, as staff leave or retire, those positions are being turned into part-time positions with no health benefits. During an ACCAFT meeting on Dec. 7, members discussed how some computer support staff have been reclassified from prof-tech (professional and technical) to classified employees, which is normally used to describe positions such as custodians. Then there's the ongoing issue of how ACC calculates adjunct hours, and whether it really pays staff enough for the prep and grading time outside of the classroom and contact hours. Albert said, "I teach four classes, and I clearly work more than 40 hours, but they're telling me I don't." — *Richard Whittaker*



ACC Trustee Tim Mahoney says the board was kept out of the loop on the administration's decision to cut health coverage.

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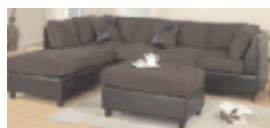


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NEWS

AI SD: Carstarphen on the Hot Seat

Austin Independent School District trustees discussed the future of Superintendent **Meria Carstarphen** at the Dec. 9 board meeting. However, the talk was all behind closed doors, and the public will have to wait until the Dec. 16 meeting to find out her future.

Historically, the board has completed the superintendent's evaluation by the end of September. Yet this time, the decision has been delayed almost three months. The publicly stated reason – given by board president **Vince Torres** and reiterated this week by AISD's Executive Director of Communications and Community Engagement Alex Sánchez – was that Trustee **Tamala Barksdale** was ill, and Torres wanted to ensure that all trustees were engaged in the discussion. However,



Carstarphen

JOHN ANDERSON

normally the heavy lifting in the evaluation is done over the summer – before Barksdale was ill. Moreover, Barksdale has been back at board meetings since Oct. 21.

Carstarphen was originally hired in 2009 on a four-year contract, set to expire in 2013. However, the board voted to extend it by one year in both 2011 and 2012, meaning Carstarphen is safe in her job until 2015. That means more job security than any other AISD staff member, who are all on one-year contracts. Education Austin President **Ken Zarifis** understood the delay due to Barksdale's health but added “there's more to it than that.”

It's no secret that the board is split over Carstarphen. The 2012 elections were seen in part as a referendum on her continued tenure, and on a board that many saw as rubber-stamping her policies. The result was a major

turnover in seats, and a board that has been more critical of the district CEO. Now Carstarphen faces a board that is split down the middle, with Trustee **Amber Elenz** seen as the swing vote. Zarifis said, “We're at a turning point in this district, and there has to be a clear direction from this board.”

For **Greater Austin Area Chamber of Commerce** Vice President of Education and Talent Development **Drew Scheberle**, the real concern goes beyond just one employee. The second part of the evaluation gives the superintendent instruction on the district's goals for the academic year: The three-month delay means the district has been functionally rudderless for a whole semester. Scheberle is also concerned that the behind-the-scenes tensions may scupper the district's plans to ask voters for a tax increase next year. He said, “I don't think there's any question that you've got a deeply divided board about management, but for AISD to get itself out of its budget hole, they've got to work together.”

The board is already under pressure to terminate Carstarphen's contract. On Dec. 9, Saldaña Public Relations principal **Paul Saldaña** – often seen as point man for the Hispanic business community – posted an editorial on the website of local think tank **Hispanic Advocates Business Leaders of Austin (HABLA)**. He harshly criticized Carstarphen's track record, under a headline that made his intentions clear: “It's time for a new AISD superintendent.” – *Richard Whittaker*

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Lehmberg NOT Removed: Déjà Vu All Over Again

As the *Chronicle* went to press Wednesday afternoon, *State of Texas v. Rosemary Lehmberg*, the civil removal lawsuit, had reached its conclusion – following closing arguments, visiting Bexar County Judge David Peeples ruled immediately he was rejecting the petition for removal, and Travis County District Attorney Lehmberg would remain in office. Following the three days of trial (originally estimated to last five), the result was entirely unsurprising.

The State was represented by Travis County Attorney **David Escamilla**, in the person of assistant county attorneys **James Collins**, **Sharon Talley**, and **Tim Labadie**. Lehmberg's defenders were **Daniel Richards** seconded by his brother **Clark** (both sons of former governor **Ann** and attorney **David**). When Collins rested his case Wednesday morning, the defense immediately asked for a directed verdict, arguing that the State had wrongly employed archaic **Prohibition** law and had not proved its case; Peeples predictably declined, preferring to let the proceedings play out to the end. The defense began calling its witnesses Wednesday, a long and distinguished list of local attorneys, judges, and other dignitaries ready to testify to Lehmberg's character, competence, and continued fitness for office. It soon became clear that the entire list wouldn't be necessary – and a little before 4:30pm, following closing arguments, Peeples denied the petition for removal.

While removal lawsuits for public officials are not unknown – Peeples has presided over several such cases – attorneys could find only a single instance of removal on grounds of drunkenness, dating to the Thirties and using a law amended to the **Local Government Code** during Prohibition, when even possession of liquor was illegal.

Beyond the single April 12 DWI to which Lehmberg pled guilty, and for which she served her 45-day sentence, Collins, the county's chief litigator, laid out in his opening statement “**six factors**” the State believes should convince the court that Lehmberg deserves removal: 1) the extent of her intoxication that night; 2) she “decided to commit crimes”; 3) her “almost unimaginable” bad behavior towards law enforcement officers; 4) her intoxication represents a pattern of conduct; 5) she has a pattern of lying about drinking and perhaps about other things “both in general and while under oath”; 6) she probably won't stay sober in the future, because she has promised to follow treatment but has not done so.

Collins had little trouble demonstrating the first three factors. Lehmberg had pled guilty to drinking and driving,

and has repeatedly apologized both for that and for her “inappropriate and unacceptable” behavior to the arresting officers. But prosecutors have thus far had a great deal of trouble demonstrating the subsequent “patterns of conduct” of which they accuse the D.A. Both the medical witnesses they summoned, and their attempts to imply that Lehmberg hasn't sufficiently committed to her rehabilitation and treatment plan, seemed together to undermine their own case. Lehmberg's doctors testified, overall, that they believe she has an “excellent” prognosis for recovery, and her defense appeared to document that she has followed her doctors' recommendations and has in fact abstained from drinking since her final two glasses of wine – on the plane to enroll in an Arizona rehab clinic, **Sierra Tucson**.

Before he called the doctors, Collins spent much of Monday recounting, via two 911 callers and three Travis County officers, the already well-known events of April 12. After driving erratically on Highway 620 (the subject of the 911 calls), Lehmberg stopped near **St. Luke's Church**, where a deputy found her and summoned arresting officers. She was transported to the jail, where by her own admission she behaved abominably toward jail personnel – all of this captured and widely broadcast on video, which (mercifully) Judge Peeples said he would review privately. On Tuesday, Collins returned to this material while grilling Lehmberg at great length, pointing to quite minor inconsistencies in her current testimony and that of her sworn depositions, and asking her repeatedly why she had done this foolish thing or made that false statement on the night of April 12. Lehmberg replied repeatedly, with sometimes testy resignation: “I was intoxicated.”

Between those reconstructions, Collins presented video depositions and recited testimony by two of Lehmberg's doctors on Monday, plus witness testimony Tuesday morning by Austin addiction specialist Dr. **Herbert C. Munden**.

Although each witness was somewhat limited by not then knowing the current status of Lehmberg's treatment plan – that would come later, during her own testimony – each judged her prognosis for recovery “good” to “excellent.” None thought the state of her disease – diagnosed variously as “**alcohol abuse disorder, mild**” or “**chemical dependency, not physiological**” – impaired her competency or abilities, or endangered the public interest. As for the State's implication that Lehmberg was “denying” her disease or “lying” about being an “alcoholic,” Munden seemed perplexed. “Denial” is generally a symptom of chemical dependency, he said, “but that's not the same as lying.” Moreover, he added, virtually everybody engages in denial of one kind or another.

In short, as Daniel Richards put it, the State seemed to want to retry Lehmberg's DWI, but to what end remained unclear. Judge Peeples was generally quiet, but asked a couple of questions of Collins that suggested he was also puzzled. “Are you asking me to predict the future?” he wondered, saying he didn't think he could anticipate another DWI. And by Tuesday, he was getting impatient with Collins' infinitesimal reconstruction of April 12. “Is this going somewhere?” he asked Collins.

“Yes,” Collins replied.

“Then get there,” said the judge.

In his opening statement, Richards had said that the State is basing its argument for Lehmberg's removal on the single intoxication standard of the Local Government Code. If that's to be the new standard, he continued, they had “better get busy” and start removing officials all over the county and state, if only to serve equal justice under the law. Many Texas public officials have received DWIs, without any motion for removal, he continued, and there are no grounds for treating Lehmberg differently. She has a constitutional right to know what the law is, and what the consequences are: “Not a list of factors they've just made up.”

– Michael King

For more reporting on *State v. Lehmberg* see *Newsdesk at austinchronicle.com*, and follow ongoing coverage on Twitter: **#Lehmberg**.



Council: Dem Ol' Railroad Blues

A **City Council** meeting tonight with 141 agenda items does not look like a recipe for efficient government – nor for anybody getting home before midnight. (Foolproof cure for insomnia: Channel 6 after 10pm.) Nevertheless, Council will soldier on, and they've got plenty to attack, based on the listed agenda as well as some hot-button items that struck sparks at Tuesday's work session. The morning briefing (Item 87), for example, is on the **Project Connect** urban rail plan, paired with a nominal “consent” Item 67 approving the proposed Phase 1 recommendations that came out of the PC working group and the **Central Corridor Advisory Group**, although here appearing with the bureaucratic boilerplate of being officially a City Manager's recommendation (see “Urban Rail: Which Way to Connect?,” p.30). The chances of that passing without a dais

discussion – proceeded by public speakers – are nil, and on Tuesday, Council members (over Mayor **Lee Leffingwell**'s objection) made it clear they want to move the whole subject to the evening to allow more public comment – 4pm “time certain,” meaning around 7, after the dinner break. (Council also fussed dramatically over City Manager **Marc Ott**'s plan to move the **City Auditor**'s office out of City Hall as 10-1 comes in, but Ott wouldn't budge. That's a management decision, and not on the agenda, but it ain't going away – and may say more about Ott's future than that of the auditor's digs.)

A similar fate is likely in store for Item 33, proposed final approval of the **Auditorium Shores** improvement project. Since there's been plenty of public woofing over the last several weeks over the proposed shrinking of the off-leash dog park area, we might see an

evening discussion (with public comment) but based on Council discussion, the whole can will be kicked down the road until January – while the **Parks and Rec Department** tries to establish more of a public consensus. (Best of luck!) Word is that the same may be true for public hearing over Item 131, proposed revision of “**vested development rights**” (grandfathering) ordinance.

Of course, they may never get to those, as Item 32 proposes to approve the installation of **parking meters** at the **Butler Shores Ball Fields** on Toomey Road – but PARD has taken a lot of flack over that proposal as well. Depending on Council support, that might also see another day, though it's already been bumped several times.

Overshadowed in these recent headline items are former headline items: Item 28, which would authorize the negotiation and purchase (for up to \$18 million) of the 600-acre **Jeremiah Venture** tract in Hays County as water protection lands instead of the

treated effluent receptor lands once contemplated by the developers; and Item 70, proposing approval of the 100 or so public and nonprofit sites (a few still jockeying for position) selected to receive **Google Fiber** high-speed connections.

A newer controversy will also surface: Council has been hearing loudly from Allandale residents upset over TxDOT's planned **MoPAC soundwall** near Bullard Drive that will turn at least some of their home lots into visual handball courts. City authority may not reach very far on that one, but Council would ask (Item 76) staff to investigate the situation, poll the residents, and suggest what might be done to ameliorate the plan.

If they manage all of that, there are several proclamations for retirees, a performance by the **Sixth Street Cowboy**, and (if it's deemed feasible by staff) potentially \$85,000 to help transplant the **Big Ol' Heritage Oak** at Highway 290 W. and William Cannon. Treehuggers to the rescue! – Michael King

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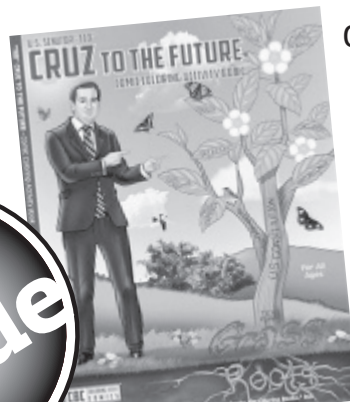
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— Brandon Watson



The Dude Abides

"This aggression will not stand!" No, that's not one of the season's greetings on the *The Big Lebowski* holiday cards, but it's close: When Santa invades a private residence, man, the Dude just has to protest. A five-pack of cards is available via the Lebowski Fest, which, by the way, is Jan. 31-Feb. 1 in Tampa. And a good holiday to you, sir! \$10. www.lebowskiest.com.

— Michael King

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— B.W.



A Feast for Your Census

How about your own City Council districting map? Since nobody is entirely happy with the 10-1 map produced by the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission — one sign that the ICRC probably did a good job, or else a Weird-Austin one — maybe you should put your own under the Christmas tree! Your Own Austin Map comes with crayons, Citizens Communication reservations, and a Council-Member-for-Hire! He or she may not get elected, but your new CM will be guaranteed to take all your phone calls! Free. — M.K.



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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT BY JIM HIGHTOWER

CONGRESSIONAL VICTIMS OF ALCOHOLISM ... AND HYPOCRISYITIS

Right-wing political operatives deserve credit for their impressive inventiveness.

In particular, they have created the "Rob Defense" for public officials who get caught engaging in bad personal behavior, such as sexual misconduct, snorting cocaine, and bribery. When nabbed in an act of naughtiness, the standard defense thrown out by politicians of all stripes has been to blame "stress of overwork" and to apologize to "anyone who is offended" by their grossly offensive action.

But that excuse is overused, so advisers to right-wing bad boys have invented a new defense: Just claim to have been "in a drunken stupor" at the time. See, it really wasn't their fault — blame the booze! The Rob Defense is named for **Rob Ford**, the almost-comically offensive mayor of Toronto, who keeps explaining that his crack cocaine use, abusive rages, and other antics only happen when he's sozzled, totally blotto.

Recently, though, a Tea Party Congress critter from Florida added a clever refinement to the Rob. Arrested in November for buying cocaine in Washington, D.C., Rep. **Trey Radel** dolefully confided in a press release that, "I struggle with the disease of alcoholism." That's a shrewd touch, for you get extra public sympathy if you're a victim of disease.

But let's note that Trey also suffers from another disease he didn't mention: Political Hypocrisyitis. Barely a month earlier, Radel had joined his Republican colleagues to bash poor people by voting to require mandatory drug tests for all food stamp recipients. Did alcoholism make him do that, too?

The poverty program pays under \$200 a month per person for a family of four, while Radel draws more than \$14,000 a month from us taxpayers. If Congress really wants to kick drug abusers off the public dole, its best odds of finding some would be to start testing its own members.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work — and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, "The Hightower Lowdown" — visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.



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Urban Rail: Which Way to Connect?

Project Connect recommends a rail corridor – and transit advocates board opposing trains

BY MAC MCCANN AND MICHAEL KING

On Friday, Dec. 6, the Central Corridor Advisory Group, appointed by Mayor Lee Leffingwell to advise city officials on the development of urban rail, approved Project Connect's sub-corridor recommendations of East Riverside and Highland by a vote of 14-1. The sole negative vote was that of Julie Montgomery, senior program coordinator for the Center for Health and Social Policy at the LBJ School of Public Affairs and an executive committee member of Austinites for Urban Rail Action. AURA, the transit advocacy group, strongly prefers the Lamar/Guadalupe sub-corridor, but Montgomery's motion to amend the recommendation (substituting Lamar/Guadalupe for Highland), failed at CCAG by a vote of 13-2.

The recommendations are now scheduled for a briefing to City Council this Thursday, Dec. 12, along with a proposed resolution that would endorse the initial plan and also continue to "analyze the East Riverside and Highland Sub-Corridors or alternative sub-corridors as the Central Corridor priority, and directing the City Manager to present a possible Locally Preferred Alternative as part of Phase 2 of the Project effort for Council consideration."

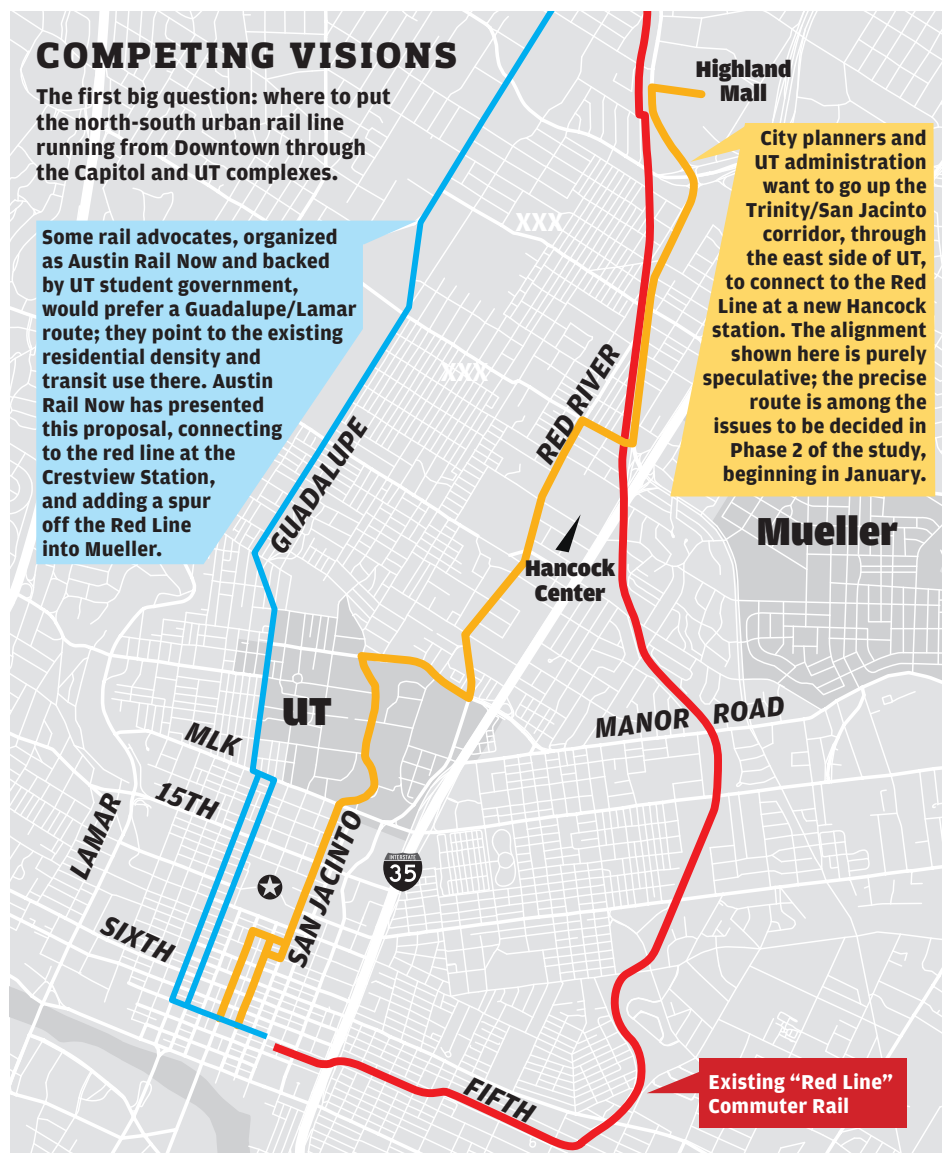
Leffingwell's Policy Director Amy Everhart said on Friday that once the recommendations work their way through the process, they will likely be on a ballot proposal in November 2014, asking Austin voters to endorse funding for the overall plan. However, she made it clear that the process is far from complete, noting that there will be "several more months of discussion before we put anything on the ballot. Anything could change between now and then."

In the long term, Project Connect, the regional planning initiative under the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, envisions a public transit system that connects not only all of Austin, but also other destinations in the Central Texas region, such as San Marcos and San Antonio.

Still Rocky Road

Although the CCAG vote was nearly unanimous, the panel's recommendation arrives trailing plenty of controversy. At the center of the Project Connect debate over the future of urban rail in Austin is the transit team's recommendation of the "Highland sub-corridor" – a route that would run roughly from the eastern area of Downtown through the eastern edge of the University of Texas campus to the former Highland Mall area (near Highway 290 E. at Airport Boulevard).

After examining reams of relevant information and data – covering congestion, ridership, affordable housing, growth centers, public opinion, etc. – the Project Connect team recognized potential benefits of investing in transit in any of the 10 possible sub-corridors. However, according to Cap-

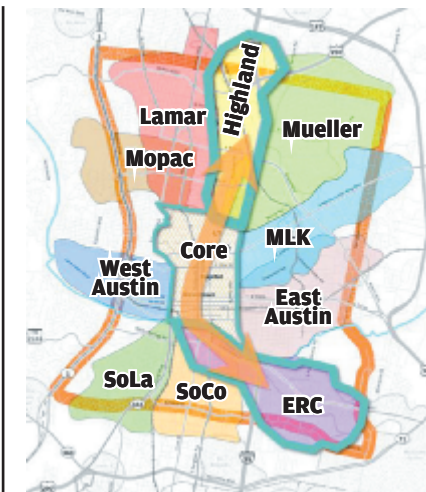


ital Metro's communications specialist, John Julitz, in the final analysis the Highland sub-corridor was recommended largely because of its "potential growth" – including near the UT campus as well as the redevelopment of Austin Community College at Highland Mall. In justifying the Highland recommendation, Julitz emphasized that Project Connect is a long-term investment. As the area continues to grow, Julitz expects ridership to grow as well.

Because UT-Austin is a major part of the central corridor (along with Downtown and the Capitol), it will be served regardless of the final recommendations. However, it appears that, if the East Riverside (the other recommendation) and Highland sub-corridors are selected, the rail route would likely go up San Jacinto, on the eastern side of the university. That's not unanimously supported at UT; in October, UT's Student Government General Assembly endorsed the Lamar/Guadalupe sub-corri-

dor on the west side of campus, nearer to the West Campus student population. However, UT's CCAG representative, Vice President for University Operations Pat Clubb, supported the Highland sub-corridor, and Everhart confirmed that the UT administration prefers the eastern route, especially since the west side will soon be served by bus rapid transit along Guadalupe and Lamar.

The implementation of Capital Metro's MetroRapid service to improve commuting on the Lamar/Guadalupe route was prominent in CCAG discussions and in input from Capital Metro – with the related factor that MetroRapid will receive considerable funding from the Federal Transit Administration, specifically dedicated to that route. Another consideration is the planners' reluctance to begin the rail project with the inevitable disruption of a currently major corridor by construction of a line that would also replace one or two vehicle lanes.



In Phase 1 of their study, Project Connect planners studied 10 sub corridors in central Austin, and recommended Highland and the East Riverside Corridor (ERC) as the ones most suitable for the next major transit investment – presumably Austin's first urban rail line.

Nevertheless, supporters of the western route have been arguing – vehemently – that a selection of East Riverside and Lamar/Guadalupe would much better invest transit resources in an area that already has heavy mass transit (bus) ridership and the dense population needed to sustain rail. For example, on Dec. 4, the Capital Metro Customer Satisfaction Advisory Committee (a citizen committee appointed by CapMetro's board) advised the board "to include the Lamar sub-corridor in Phase 2 of the Central Corridor Study," adding that the Lamar sub-corridor "is proven to be the highest transit ridership corridor in Austin."

Supporters of the Highland route point out that the university has been expanding eastward, and current projects underway – in particular the new medical school and related facilities – confirm that it will continue to do so. During the Dec. 6 CCAG meeting, UT's Clubb argued that San Jacinto, framed by major public buildings such as the LBJ Library and Bass Concert Hall, has become the center of campus. At UT administrators see it, the Highland route would likely pass right by Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, servicing UT's future growth, such as the medical school and the city's recently proposed but still quite theoretical "innovation district" for high tech start-ups.

Trouble Ahead, Trouble Behind

Nevertheless, the Highland sub-corridor remains far from popular among local transit advocates – a relatively small but enthusiastically dedicated crowd – and there was significant backlash in the wake of Project Connect's initial recommendation of the Highland sub-corridor to the CCAG. Quite a

few advocates strongly denounced the Highland recommendation, especially on social media. For example, the Downtown advocacy group, Central Austin Community Development Corporation, tweeted, “@cdcatx: Breaking it down: Lamar and Riverside seem frankly head-and-shoulders above the rest.”

Jace Deloney, a founder and executive committee member of AURA, has taken repeatedly to his blog (www.jacedeloney.wordpress.com) to denounce the Project Connect and CCAG recommendation. “I am concerned that [the Highland sub-corridor] currently does not have the level of public support and the mix of people and destinations needed to make a successful first phase urban rail investment,” he wrote.

Indeed, Project Connect’s own surveys from their several public outreach workshops reflect a lack of enthusiasm for Highland; as Deloney wrote on his blog, “Lamar was the most preferred sub-corridor at Project Connect’s public workshops.” According to the Project’s six workshop surveys, the Lamar/Guadalupe route steadily garnered a plurality and at least once a solid majority of the public preference votes. Project planners have responded that the surveys don’t necessarily reflect a representative sample of the whole city (perhaps calling into question the Project’s outreach efforts), and they point to other surveys that show widespread public support for rail regardless of the first corridor chosen. And they’ve insisted – echoed by the mayor at CCAG Friday – that surveyed public sentiment is only one factor to be considered in choosing a route, and that the project decision cannot rely simply on “a popularity contest.”

Dan Keshet, also on AURA’s executive committee, calls the Highland recommendation at best a “head-scratcher.” He says the Highland corridor simply doesn’t have significant demand at this time – especially compared to the high-density Lamar corridor. Former Urban Transportation Commissioner Mike Dahmus – an AURA member and one of the most obstreperous advocates of local mass transit – has essentially said that anyone with any common sense knows the Highland route is a mistake. He’s tweeted that even his 4-year-old daughter “knows L/G is the #1 route.”

Hyperbole aside, Dahmus is expressing a widespread sentiment among transit advocates. Nearly everyone actively following the project – other than Project Connect’s team of transit planners, the mayor, and most of CCAG – seems to think that the Lamar/Guadalupe route should be the obvious investment, primarily based on the undeniable fact that the Lamar/Guadalupe corridor has the strongest current population density as well as the strongest current demand for mass transit, as expressed by bus ridership.

For example, Deloney has written, “Study after study shows Lamar has the highest

population and employment densities. According to Walkscore.com, the Lamar sub-corridor contains many of the most walkable neighborhoods outside of Downtown Austin.” He continued, “It is clear to me that Lamar should be included in Phase 2 of Project Connect’s Central Corridor Study. It has the existing ridership, density and public support needed to make transit investments successful in Central Texas.”

Despite the assurances by Project Connect officials that “popularity” can’t be the determining factor in their recommendation, planners recognize that they’ll need broad public support by next November, when presumably Austin voters will be considering a rail proposition and its bonding support. The first route obviously sets a plan and potentially a pattern, and transit advocates worry that it will be a self-defeating pattern. Dahmus argued last month, “The problem is if you pick the wrong first line, you never get to make a second line – or at least you have to wait a generation or two for the voters to give you another chance.”

Beyond all the debate regarding the specific routes, many Austinites have voiced concerns about the process itself. In November, Keshet told the *Chronicle* that Project Connect hasn’t provided “the transparent and data-driven process that we were hoping for.” And since that comment, the process has arguably gotten more convoluted. Originally, both City Council and the Capital Metro board were expected to officially vote on the sub-corridors this month; the plan was then changed to the groups only being briefed on the subject, with no official action anticipated. But then, as of Friday, Dec. 6, Everhart said that Council will actually vote on Dec. 12 after all, in the form of a resolution described officially as endorsing the “City Manager’s Phase 1 recommendation for Project Connect.” Overall, despite Project Connect’s recent efforts at public outreach, there have been persistent complaints that

Beyond all the debate regarding the specific routes, many Austinites have concerns about the process itself.

the public process has been too little, too late – and with too little effect on the official decisions.

Julitz says that both Council and the Capital Metro board, the major partners in Project Connect, have been sufficiently informed throughout the entire process. But others aren’t convinced. Deloney is one of the many vocal critics of the process, as well as the specific data used by the planners. He’s noted, “I believe Project Connect gave too much weight to future projections and highway congestion data. One example of this is that they decided to use highway congestion data from I-35 and Mopac. Because of this, the Lamar sub-corridor, which contains one of the Top 100 Most Congested Roads in Texas, ranked dead last in the Congestion Index.”



Leffingwell

The Federal Gorilla

CCAG’s recommendations – East Riverside and Highland – are just that: recommendations, which have to be ratified by elected officials. In January, Phase 2 of the process will begin to work on the details of the recommended investments, such as specific routes and modes of transportation. Council will need to take official action by mid-year at the latest in order for the project (with its estimated initial local cost of around \$500 million) to make the ballot in November, when the bond proposal will be offered to voters.

Dahmus thinks the city is avoiding the Lamar/Guadalupe sub-corridor largely for what he calls a political reason – specifically, to avoid endangering federal support already dedicated to bus rapid transit. The Lamar/Guadalupe area will soon have MetroRapid, which was approved in 2010 as part of Capital Metro’s ServicePlan2020, a planned network of bus routes. MetroRapid cost about \$47.6 million total, and the Federal Transit Administration’s Very Small Starts program covered about \$38.1 million of that, or roughly 80%, with Capital Metro funding the remaining fifth, about \$9.5 million.

Transit advocates have suggested that the FTA funding issue is either exaggerated or a distraction, but Friday’s CCAG discussions reflected that officials are convinced it’s a real financial risk. Council Member Bill Spelman said that he has had discussions with FTA officials, who made it clear that FTA support for MetroRapid is based on its Lamar/Guadalupe route only, a judgment seconded by Cap Metro’s John Langmore. Other CCAG members said that while they are also persuaded of that problem, it hasn’t been sufficiently communicated to the public at large.

The FTA funding is often described privately as “the 800-pound gorilla in the room,” and former longtime Planning Commissioner and now CCAG member Dave Sullivan acknowledged that it’s a real concern for planners: Because the FTA has agreed to fund the higher capacity buses along North Lamar, Guadalupe, Burnet, South Congress, and South Lamar, the FTA “would be very unhappy if we reprogrammed those corridors after we gave them this plan that put in the bus rapid transit – and then we decide that we want to do rail there instead.” The buses couldn’t simply be moved to a different area because of the specific contract with FTA. “It’s a very competitive system to get money, so cities that play ball with the federal authorities are probably more likely to get funding for their projects,” Sullivan said. “So I, personally, am very afraid that if we did say, ‘Let’s go to the voters and ask them to support a rail project on Lamar,’ that we wouldn’t get any assistance from the FTA.”

continued on p.32

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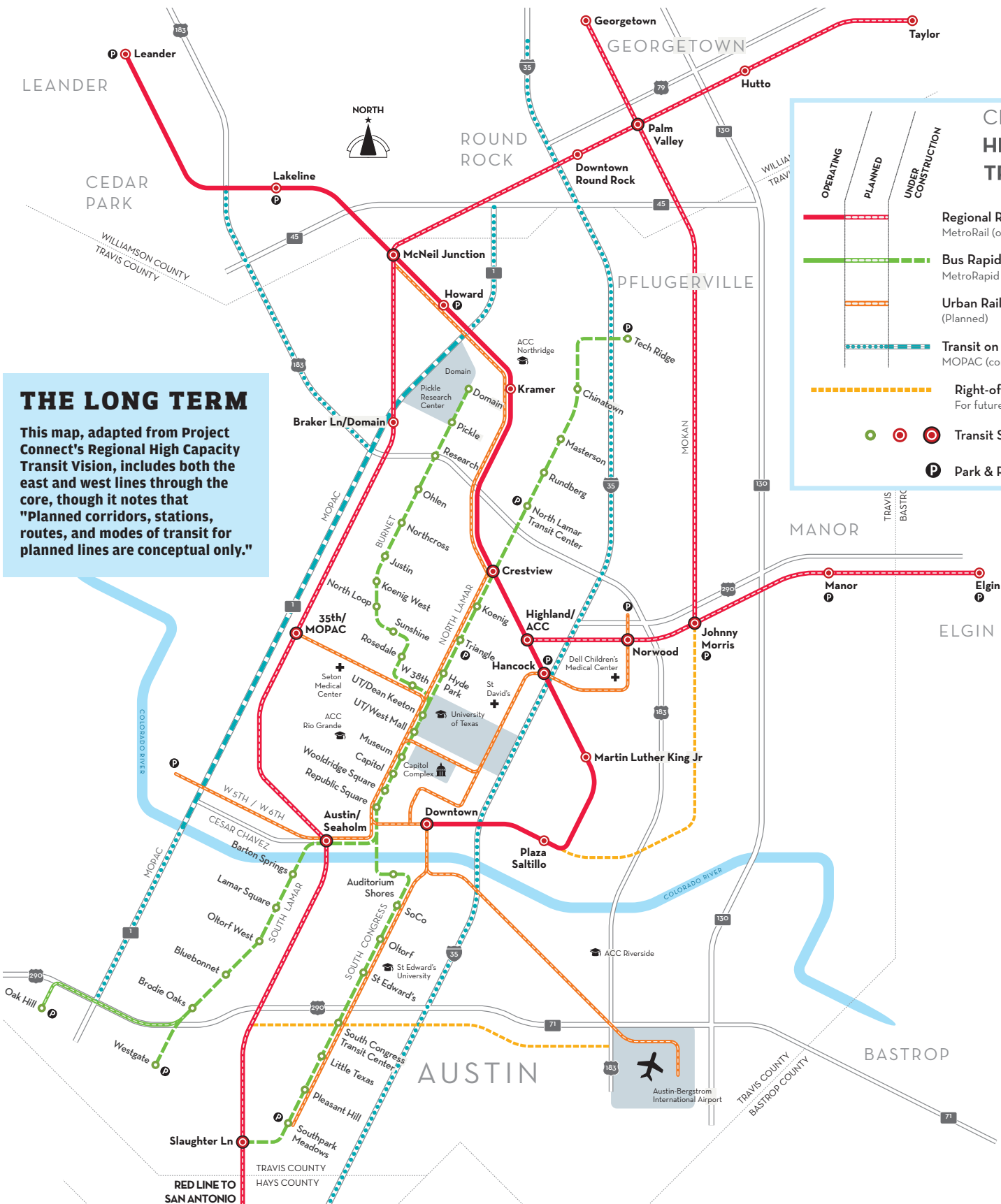
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proceed "judiciously," continuing to closely monitor the corridors' growth and redevelopment – and if necessary, changing the plan if the data (or the public) doesn't suf-

ficiently support the Highland investment. Finally, Sullivan thinks it's important to propose and develop a long-term (30-year) plan for extending rail to Lamar, South Congress, South Lamar, and so on, including to the Mueller neighborhood, one of the "growth corridors" contemplated by planners in choosing Highland.

The CCAG discussion on Dec. 6 addressed some of those concerns, as does the resolution on Council's Dec. 12 agenda, suggesting

that "Phase 2" of Project Connect consider alternative routes as part of its ongoing mission. But planners also told CCAG that if the overall project is to maintain its current timetable, it would take most of the coming months to fully prepare spadework on the two already recommended corridors – adding a third at this stage, they said, would be very difficult, if not impossible.

Leffingwell's Priority Project

At the center of the entire transit project is Mayor Leffingwell, who will step down from the dais at the end of 2014. Leffingwell has dedicated the major focus of his final term in office to improving transportation for Austin and the Central Texas region, and he considers the mass transit pieces of that project highly important. In recent months, the mayor has been visibly impatient at the slow pace of local transportation planning – undeniably characteristic of Austin's transit decision-making process for at least two decades – and he's been pressing planners and CCAG members to keep the development moving even if it means accelerating the process faster than some of those involved feel comfortable. That impatience was apparently behind his initial reluctance to request a Council vote at this stage – but Thursday's meeting (and presumably the vote) should reflect where other Council Members stand on Project Connect and the particular recommendations made thus far.

Regarding accusations that Leffingwell has been rushing the process, Everhart said the mayor is happy with what he considers to be a "pretty thorough" process, which CCAG has been involved with for about six months, and which she described as "very deliberative." Noting that Leffingwell has been promoting urban rail for Austin since he first arrived on Council in 2005, and campaigned on the issue when he ran for mayor in 2009, Everhart concluded, "It's been a long time coming."

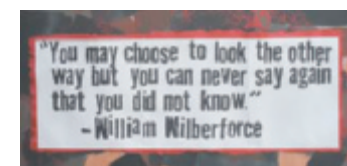
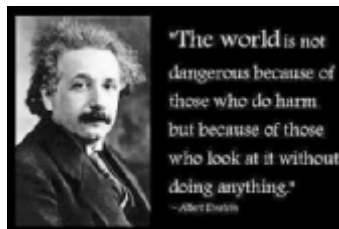
A Third Way?

Sullivan also suggested that the occasionally bitter arguments over the sub-corridors may be putting the cart before the horse – or the corridor before the train – in an urban rail system that must begin somewhere, but is conceived eventually to service the whole city. In the end, he said, "We're not coming up with anything final.

Yes, it is a major step in choosing sub-corridors, but the whole thing could be called off at any point, if the City Council decided that they didn't like the process that we're following."

Sullivan says he's confident that Highland and East Riverside are the best options, but he acknowledges some merit to the

advocates' concerns. He suggests that one way to proceed could be to develop the rail project in three stages, as a practical matter but also in part to appease the critics. First, he says, Project Connect should go full steam ahead with the East Riverside Corridor. Regarding the Highland sub-corridor, Sullivan says project developers should



“FRIENDS OF ANONYMOUS” AUSTIN, TEXAS PROTEST MARCH

La Luz Del Mundo Church Sexual Molestation, Human Trafficking Protest

Friends of Anonymous has scheduled a protest of La Luz Del Mundo church on the sidewalk across from its South Austin location, 1120 E. Third St. (Third St. & Waller St.) on Saturday, December 21st from 9am-3pm.

A nonviolent, peaceful protest of the church's alleged practices of human trafficking and sexual molestation of its members and fraudulent real estate transfers.

Pre-Event on Friday December 20th at the Driskill Hotel Bar from 5-9pm. Free Guy Fawkes masks to the first 25 participants.

For more information contact Scott Ogle, Law Office of Scott Ogle 512.442.8833 soglelaw@peoplepc.com



If We Make It Through December

The thing about Christmas is that you know what's going to happen to the kid. No matter how sweet the crèche beneath the tree, that cutie in the cradle is in for a very hard time. He'll say and do amazing things, and become the central icon of a civilization, but you know his earthly reward will be failure, betrayal, torture, and an especially ugly end. There's no prettying up a crucifixion. Flies and birds are at you for hours before you die. Subjectively, if you will, from the point of view of the crucified, it's a long time until Easter.

After I was old enough to connect the kid in the crib with the guy on the cross, Christmas was never the same. Somewhere around 12 years old I got to thinking, "Look what we're asking him to do for us. I don't want any part of it. I'm not asking that of you, little baby."

As I grew, I loved Catholic churches, Hasidic tales, Protestant spirituals, and Sufi poems, but came reluctantly to this conclusion: The violent, brilliant psychoses of monotheism generate extraordinary beauty and immeasurable suffering, and constitute a spectacle too stunning and

awful to be judged by any except the God that monotheists imagine.

But that's got nothing to do with Christmas. Christmas in America is especially problematic. It's tedious and obvious to mention that the Sermon on the Mount is as un-American as you can get. Blessed are the poor? Turn the other cheek? Not American values. We celebrate Jesus as an infant in a crib, where he's helpless, and as a man nailed to a cross, where he's also helpless. Beliefs that adhere to these images vary, but the images speak pretty well for themselves: The Sermon on the Mount makes you helpless.

And that, too, has nothing to do with Christmas.

For me, Christmas is only Christmas because people I love think it's important. I try to honor that as best as I can, but it makes you feel freakish when something precious to your people is valueless in your heart. Where they see something wonderful, I see rituals of reassurance that fail to reassure – anxiety boiling beneath the cheery hoopla. The Christmas song that says it for me is Merle Haggard's "If We Make It Through December."

Still, who can fail to be moved by Christmas art?

At age 13, right around when my heart abandoned Christmas (for that's what it felt like), I listened for the first time to a recording of Dylan Thomas reading "A Child's Christmas in Wales." A perfect story – the Christmas everyone wants. The poet is so convincing that you may listen many times and never notice that the figure utterly absent from his perfect Christmas is Jesus.

Thomas's last sentence is more Druid than Christian, yet nevertheless it gave me, then and now, a model for a Christmas prayer: "I said some words to the close and holy darkness, and then I slept."

While still in my teens, I discovered a Catholic poet who brought Christmas to life with a glory I loved and a terror I recognized: Robert Lowell. His 1946 *Lord Weary's Castle* is a kind of 20th century Christmas hymnal.

"Christmas Eve Under Hooker's Statue" takes you to Boston Common during a wartime blackout. Lowell stands you beside the Union general, a fuckup if ever there was one: "The blundering butcher ... rides on Time – / ... I am cold:/ I ask for bread, my father gives me mould."

Is this father the Father? Is he a heritage? In any case, he behaved like my father.

The poem ends: "But we are old, our fields are running wild:/ Till Christ again turn wanderer and child."

With those words I could address the Christ in whom I could not believe. Couldn't believe, but could address: a pain-in-the-ass existential position. Still, Lowell had the tone of Christmas as I felt and feel it.

"The Holy Innocents" frightened me: "King Herod shrieking vengeance at the curled/ Up knees of Jesus choking in the air .../ Still/ The world out-Herods Herod; and the year./ The nineteen-hundred forty-fifth of grace./ Lumber with losses ..."

That made it personal: 1945, my birth year, the year the world learned of Nazi death camps and Hiroshima – the year Lowell looked into the manger and said, "Lamb of the shepherds, Child, how still you lie."

"New Year's Day": "In the snow/ The kitten heaved its hindlegs, as if fouled,/ And died. We bent it in a Christmas box." Then Lowell weaves into a final verse that gives us the infant Jesus's circumcision. The last lines ring biblically: "Time and the grindstone and the knife of God./ The Child is born in blood, O child of blood."

That suits alike the 20th and 21st centuries. If we make it through December, indeed.

Everywhere I looked for a merry Christmas, I found contradictions too disturbing to ignore and paradoxes too entrenched to resolve. Finally, I gave up on everything Christmas except the part

about gifts. Cheerfully rejecting all invitations, for years my preferred Christmas went like this:

Alone, I stocked up on Häagen Dazs ice cream, Black Bush whiskey, and good dark beer. Plus cigarettes. Over morning tea, I read the Sermon on the Mount. Aloud. Then I switched on *Lonesome Dove*, relishing its first lines:

Robert Duvall: "A little early for you two to be quittin', ain't it, girls? Or is it Christmas?"

He hands Tommy Lee Jones a whiskey jug. "Girls yourself," says Jones, hoisting the jug and swigging. "Ain't Christmas neither."

Good ice cream, fine whiskey, and the *Lonesome Dove* saga: For years, this was my ritual, living alone at 1236 Flores Ave. in West Hollywood, the building Steve Erickson immortalized in his books as the Hamblin. (In Steve's *Leap Year* and *Amnesiascope* I appear as a clownish fellow named "Ventura"; the portrait is so hilariously accurate that I will have excerpts read at my funeral.)

The Hamblin is only four stories high, but it sits on a steep Hollywood hillside that gives a vast view. From its rooftop, you see about 10 miles east to downtown L.A., another 10 miles south, and another 10 west to the sea. All those lights! Millions

of souls! Turn 360 degrees and you see a dozen or so aircraft at varying altitudes blinking in flight – helicopters, small planes, and a tiered line of 737s and 747s making for LAX.

That's where I'd end up toward midnight on Christmas, on that rooftop – happy, tearful, inebriated, drunk with whiskey and solitude and goddamn Christmas, terribly glad to be alive – glad and grateful – and wanting to give thanks. So: prayerful.

Which is a dilemma if you're not a monotheist, because monotheists have thoroughly colonized religious impulses with their vocabulary, such that, when I pray, I often employ their usages, though what I mean by "God" is not what they mean.

I mention this because, on that rooftop, on the night when an entire civilization would be holy if it could, as I would if I could ... enthralled by the wonderful and terrible spectacle that is Los Angeles and that is us, you and me, humanity ... it occurred to me that Charles Dickens had it right in *A Christmas Carol*: Christmas is a time of potent ghosts.

Ah, Dickens: sentimental to the brink of farce and absurd to the core – but, for precisely those reasons, he always rings true.

So, no matter where I am now, midnight on Christmas I'm again on that rooftop, shouting out the benediction of fictional Tiny Tim, because, drunk or sober, you cannot better that imaginary soul's celebration:

"God bless us, every one!" ■



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THE ARTS

Nativity

A NEW MUSICAL BY THE 'URINETOWN' TEAM IS BORN ON THE 40 ACRES, AND THE CHORUS LINE CRAVES BRA-A-AINS

'Tis the season when much attention is given to what is born – the Son of Heaven, on Earth as man; the sun in heaven, returning with spring – but I didn't expect this year's births to include singing and dancing zombies.

Of course, really, who *does* expect singing and dancing zombies, at any time of year? In this instance, perhaps only their creators: playwright Greg Kotis and composer Mark Hollmann, whose names may ring a bell thanks to a keen little show they made a dozen years ago, *Urinetown: The Musical*. In the time since that satirical sensation snagged three Tony Awards (Best Original Score, Best Book of a Musical, and Best Direction of a Musical for University of Texas alum John Rando), it has become a favorite on the college and high school theatre circuits and its writers have gone on to celebrate in song and drama the origin of life on the ocean floor (*Yeast Nation [the triumph of life]*) and the making of a one-man musical vehicle for Bush 43 Attorney General John Ashcroft (*Eat the Taste*). Once you've carved out niches in the American musical theatre for those topics, what's left to tackle but the living dead?

In truth, the team had been approached about writing a musical history of the hamburger for a theatre company that, Kotis says, hoped such a work would draw backing from the fast-food industry. Kotis responded with a fast-food-related musical idea that he and Hollmann had pitched for a movie: A chain called Chicken Hutt has created a new sandwich that, unfortunately, turns those who eat it into the shambling, brain-craving undead. While Kotis openly admitted that the show wouldn't inspire anyone in the industry to throw money at it, True Love Productions went ahead and commis-

BY ROBERT
ALL OVER
CREATION
FAIRES



sioned Kotis and Hollmann to write it.

Earlier this year, the pair was able to spend some serious time on what is at this stage just called *Untitled Zombie Musical* through a residency at Goodspeed Musicals' new Johnny Mercer Writers Colony. Then the UT Department of Theatre & Dance provided a second major shot at developing the show, workshoping material with students in its musical theatre program. All this past semester, the team sent scenes and songs to faculty members Natasha Davison (choreography and direction) and Lyn Koenning (music direction), who, with assistance from grad student director Steven Wilson (*The Beautiful People*, *The Scarlet Letter*), guided a class of 26 undergrads in getting Hollmann and Kotis' zombies on their lifeless, shuffling feet. The plan was for the writers – joined by director Sean Daniels – to convene in Austin at

My Fair Zombie:
Chris Montalvo
and Allie Donnelly
on the run from a
friend who wants
them for dinner

semester's end, view the students' work, and make adjustments before a workshop presentation. The team flew in just ahead of last week's blue norther, observed the students, and, in about 30 hours, hammered out enough new material to complete a full draft of the show. That included the ending (or, more appropriately, *an ending*) and a song finished so close to the 6:30pm showtime that it wasn't copied out for the students to perform; Hollmann himself commandeered the piano to sing it.

That gets to the heart of what was so remarkable about the presentation, which I was fortunate enough to be invited to: a show was being born. And by that, I don't mean the next Broadway hit for Hollmann and Kotis. I don't even mean the next musical comedy funny enough to justify the gouge out of your wallet that buying a ticket will leave. I just mean a show. Forget about the creators being the monster talents behind *Urinetown*. Forget about the workshoping agent being the monster institution on the 40 Acres. For that matter, forget about the singing and dancing zombies. (OK, I'll grant you, it's hard to forget about singing and dancing zombies.) Just picture any couple of writers who have been laboring over a theatrical notion, coaxing it out of their heads and onto the page in fits and starts for months. They're not sure what they have. They don't know what parts rise from the stage and sing, and what parts just lie there, stiff and still. They don't know if it all hangs together. For the love of Pete, they only just slapped on an ending a few hours ago. So there they are, in this meager little classroom playing-space far from their homes, no sets, no costumes, no fancy lights, no pro actors, no orchestra, just a rehearsal piano and some students with conviction, and these writers hear their words and music break the air in complete form, beginning to end, for the first time. This is the very first time their baby is more than just scenes and songs; it is a show. That's a thrilling moment in the life of a creative project, no matter who the originators are. It's an idea made whole, manifesting in the world, its presence owed to a group of artists working together. Not to draw too much of a parallel between this and another birth in humble surroundings much mentioned this time of year, but to me there's something of the miraculous at work here, too.

Telling you much about the show I saw wouldn't be fair – part of the reason for developing a play so far from New York is to get away from the scrutiny that journo types like me provide – but I'll allow that I liked it a lot, and I fully expect it to have changed, maybe a lot, when next I see it. Oh, and those UT students showed such heart. They pumped as much life into the undead as you could hope for, and made this debut of a zombie musical a birth worth remembering. ■

La Pastorela 2013: A Sheperdela's Storia

TIME AGAIN FOR THE SHEPHERDS' QUEST FOR THE CHRIST CHILD, WITH OLD SONGS AND NEW JOKES

Those shepherds are on the move again.

As is the case around this time every December – and has been for hundreds of Decembers now – a handful of those herders leave their woolly flocks and go in search of the child whose birth has been foretold by angels. They're not necessarily the sharpest shears in the shed – sometimes they get lost, sometimes they get drunk, they bicker, they snooze, they nearly get led astray by the devil – but they have good hearts, and since St. Michael has their back, they're always guaranteed safe passage to Bethlehem to see the infant Christ.

The shepherds' journey has figured prominently in the Latino celebration of Christmas for centuries, through the pageant *La Pastorela*, which marries the traditional and contemporary,

carols and *canciones*, an ancient message of love and modern jokes, and the Middle East and local culture. Keeping it part of our town's holiday traditions is the Austin Latino Theater Alliance, which has produced a version of *La Pastorela* every Christmas since 2004. While the core of the story stays the same from year to year, the show is reinvented each December. The 2013 version, *A Sheperdela's Storia*, draws on a screenplay by writer/director Luis Valdez, who filmed a 1991 *Pastorela* with El Teatro Campesino for PBS' *Great Performances*, but local director Patricio Villarreal Ávila is adding contributions from Austin artists and authors Claudia Montero, Tomas Salas, Marylou Castillo, Marita de la Torre, Christopher Edwards, and Diego Villarreal, with Kiko Villamizar providing live music.

The production runs Dec. 12-22, with a special dinner this Saturday, Dec. 14, 6pm, before the 7:30pm performance. Hors d'oeuvres are provided by the University of Texas Golf Club Chefs and desserts by the Pastry Shop. Visit www.altateatro.com for more information.

You can also find those wandering shepherds at Scottish Rite Theater, which is offering a take on *The Second Shepherds' Play*, the medieval English version of the Nativity tale, directed by Susan Gayle Todd. And Emilio Portes' 2011 comedy *Pastorela*, in which one community's tradition of staging *La Pastorela* is shaken up by a new pastor, will be screened a couple of times in coming weeks. Cine Las Americas will show the film on Sunday,

Dec. 15, 4pm, at the Alamo Drafthouse Village, 2700 W. Anderson; and Esquina Tango will show it Friday, Dec. 20, 9pm, at their dance studio, 209 Pedernales. For more information, visit www.cinelasamericas.org and www.esquinatangoaustin.com, respectively.

– Robert Faires

La Pastorela 2013: A Sheperdela's Storia runs Dec. 12-22, Thursday-Friday, 8pm; Saturday-Sunday, 7pm, at the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River. For more information, call 512/537-2582, or visit www.altateatro.com.

The Second Shepherds' Play continues through Dec. 22, Saturday, Dec. 14, 7pm (fundraiser); Sunday, Dec. 15 & 22, 12:30 & 2:30pm; and Saturday, Dec. 21, 11am, 1pm, & 7pm, at the Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th. For more information, visit www.brownpaper tickets.com/event/526293.

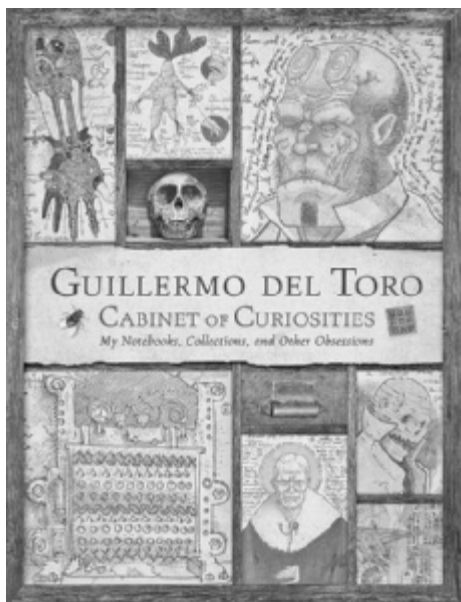
**La Pastorela 2013:
A Sheperdela's Storia**



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Guillermo del Toro Cabinet of Curiosities: My Notebooks, Collections, and Other Obsessions by Guillermo del Toro and Marc Scott Zicree Harper Design, 256 pp., \$60

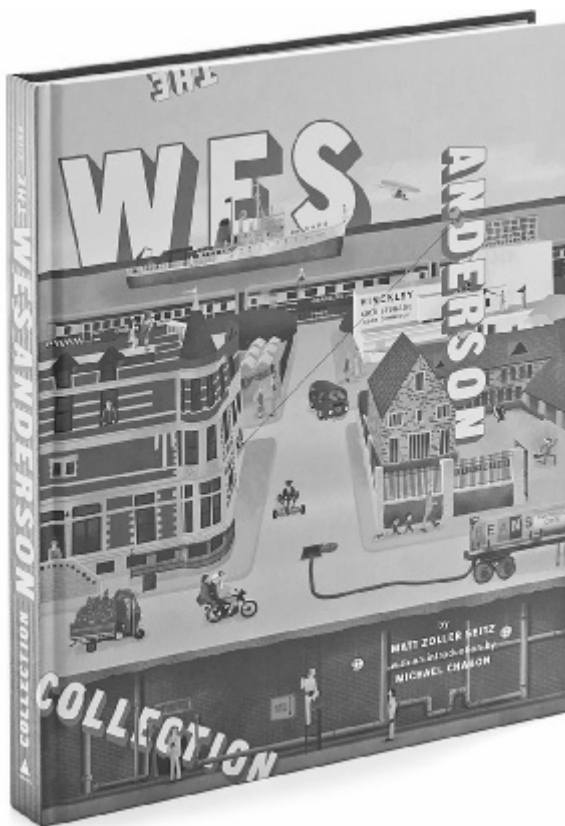
Born in the Renaissance, a cabinet of curiosities contained the weird, the arcane, and the uncategorizable. Its purpose was to draw the outlines of cosmic mysteries. That's a pretty fair description of this encyclopedic and entrancing examination of the notes and knickknacks of Mexican filmmaker Guillermo del Toro. If the old saying of "He who dies with the most toys wins" is true, then del Toro has an unsailable lead. His mythical L.A. mansion, Bleak House, is the outward expression of all his influences, as original movie props sit beside life-sized waxworks of the *Freaks* cast. But it's in the replicated and transcribed pages of his notebooks that those influences are revealed. This is the closest the audience will ever get to cracking open his cerebellum. The reproduced pages, with accompanying discussions between del Toro and Zicree, reveal a seamless melding of Bernie Wrightson and Goya. The book may be broken down by project — from *Cronos* to *Pacific Rim* and even the eternal dream of *At the Mountains of Madness* — but within the pages, they blend into one. Notes about *Hellboy* sit on a design for *Pan's Labyrinth*, revealing a creative process that melds and morphs ideas over time. — Richard Whittaker



Star Trek: The Art of Juan Ortiz by Juan Ortiz Titan Books, 112 pp., \$39.95

The Wes Anderson Collection by Matt Zoller Seitz Harry N. Abrams, 336 pp., \$40

We love a good Wes Anderson film as much as the next guy — possibly even a little more, what with that University of Texas alum/home-town hero thing he's got going. So we understand how you might be concerned about how to translate all that color, those larger-than-life characters, and his astonishingly complicated set pieces, into the necessarily flat medium of books, and we're here to reassure you: Fear not. Matt Zoller Seitz has successfully packed this collection of interviews, essays, behind-the-scenes photos, and ephemera with just as much bright, complex oomph as any of the seven films it catalogs. There's everything from early-stage storyboard scans of *Rushmore*'s yearbook montage to tiny photos of all of *Fantastic Mr. Fox*'s home furnishings, from revelations of Bill Murray's generous bankrolling to the philosophy behind cuts in *The Royal Tenenbaums*' cinematography. Pulitzer-winning author Michael Chabon praises "Anderson's total command of detail" in the book's introduction, and one could just as easily high-five the curator of the collection for his eagle eye on this impressive homage. Now, to just convince him to re-release the thing after we check in to next year's *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. — Monica Riese



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The question answered in this book is "What if every *Star Trek: The Original Series* episode had its own cinema-release-type poster?" We can imagine a collection of diverse artists' works filling page after page with vivid graphics in service to the enduring Roddenberry-spawned phenomenon, though we'd be hard-pressed to envision what those promotional creations might be. We'd be hard-pressed, because, to paraphrase Dr. "Bones" McCoy, "We're *journos*, dammit, not *artists*!" We certainly wouldn't have suspected that such a large catalog of works would be rendered by a single artist, Juan Ortiz, known for his creations for Disney and Warner Bros. and his own *Silver Comics* publication. But this volume is, and so it's all the more surprising for the variety of treatments Ortiz offers, the effective, stunning gambits of design that seem a panorama of mid-20th century tropes and triumphs applied to evoking each of the show's 80 episodes. In full



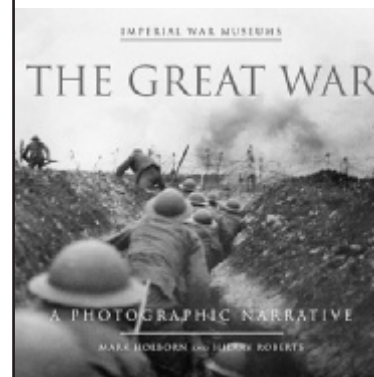
color, this oversized hardbound edition will make any *Trek* fan or more general pop-culture aficionado grin with aesthetic joy. But then, as Mr. Spock said to his mother in "Journey to Babel" (episode 39): "Humans smile with so little provocation." — Wayne Alan Brenner

The Great War: A Photographic Narrative by Mark Holborn and Hilary Roberts Knopf, 504 pp., \$100

My generous Texan public education, like so many others', took painstaking time and effort to help me understand the settlement of the 13 colonies, to hear the battle cries at the Alamo, and to grasp the remarkable schism between the Union and Confederacy during the Civil War. When we reached the 20th century, however, all steam from that powerful education engine went kaput. The students were fried, the teachers exhausted, and the most recent history was, on each occasion, presented with all the grace and detail of last Tuesday's lunch.

You remember that, don't you?

But London's Imperial War Museums are here to pick up the slack. In time for the centennial anniversary of the First World War — the eponymous Great War — Knopf has released this astonishing collection of some 380 photographs (from among the museums' 1.1 million-strong archives) of battlefields around the world. From German submarines to London streets, from the Middle East on down through East Africa, the sights and scenes from the first global war are presented in breathtaking and heartrending detail. The events of those years were



ancient history long before my birth, but in one book, I can see the textures of the trenches, the blood-spattered uniforms, the flash of humanity in soldiers' eyes. I wasn't there, but I am.

That's a world-class education. — Monica Riese



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The North Plan

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It's a Tarantino tactic: Hypnotize your audience into a state of blissful ignorance by making them laugh, gain their trust, and then give them an uppercut to the face with something so violent and ugly they are left absolutely dazed. Playwright Jason Wells employs this device of disorienting juxtaposition in Street Corner Arts' *The North Plan* with varying degrees of success.

The stage in Act One is dominated by two metal cages: a couple of jail cells in Lodus, Mo., where the unlikely of kindred spirits have a meeting of the minds as they bond over their shared captivity. How like the dueling forces of yellow journalism and serious

political discourse are these two characters as they compete for the attention of their captors. Guess which one has the harder time being heard, and guess which one survives.

Although the laughs are not in short supply here, we generally fail to care for this play's main characters. Tanya, the potty-mouthed young trailer park mom in her acid-washed hip-huggers is, of course, an easy target, but in the People's Republic of Austin we expect to sympathize with this story's "hero," Carlton Berg, the midlevel state department hack who we come to believe aspires to Snowdenesque feats of daring. Yet what does he really stand for, aside from privacy and civil liberties at their most vague?

Still, the show is perfectly cast, with the appropriately anorexic Indigo Rael as the backwater babe-cum-revolutionary Tanya, and the white-mustachioed Garry Peters as Chief Swenson, the very picture of a tiny-town sher-

iff. Kristen Bennett imbues her role as the good girl admin, Shonda-From-the-Hood, with just the right amount of sweetness and light. Her turn at slapstick is right on the money.

Despite the fact that nearly everyone here stumbles over their lines, and some scenes – such as Tanya's opening monologue – are overlong, audience members are clearly engaged and responsive, with many members standing to show their appreciation at the show's dramatic denouement.

Imperfect? Yes, but Street Corner Arts debuted its first show just two years ago. The company is still in its relative infancy, and based on the positive reception of their work, any demands put on the audience by adapting to pacing challenges are worth the extra effort. Maybe this is in-your-face theatre, and "maybe it just looks like the revolution." Either way, it's live entertainment, and as Tanya will tell you, "TV is bullshit." – Stacy Alexander Evans

**Backwater revolution:
Indigo Rael as Tanya**



COURTESY OF STREET CORNER ARTS

A Christmas Story

**Zach Topfer Theatre,
202 S. Lamar, 512/476-0541
www.zachtheatre.org
Through Dec. 29
Running time: 2 hr., 15 min.**

What do you sound like when you talk about the holidays of your childhood? Do you summon the ghosts of Christmas Past with warmth and wistfulness in your voice, laughing over youthful fixations on the presents you'd receive and quirky family traditions? In considering the enduring popularity of the 1983 film *A Christmas Story*, you can't discount the tone of its narrator. Whether or not the experiences described by author Jean Shepherd truly happened or he felt any affection for his family and neighbors in Depression-era Indiana, he *sounds* as if he cares, as if those incidents surrounding his quest at age 9 to secure a Red Ryder BB gun from Santa are so vital to him, even decades later, that he must recount them in life-or-death detail.

Many of those details are recreated with admirable fidelity in Zach Theatre's production of Philip Grecian's 2000 stage adaptation (not to be confused with the musical version seen on Broadway in 2012 and now playing at San Antonio's Woodlawn Theatre), which hews closely to the screenplay by Shepherd, Leigh Brown, and director Bob Clark. Fans can count on seeing the old man's prize lamp, Flick's tongue stick to the flagpole, little brother Randy "pig out" at breakfast, Ralphie's fantasy rescues of loved ones from danger with his Red Ryder rifle, and his urgent climb back up the slide

from Santa's chair to tell the department store St. Nick what he wants. Guided by Artistic Director Dave Steakley, the cast strives to give the audience what they love from the film without slavishly imitating the original, and while the adult actors sometimes push the broadness to the brink of cartoonishness – a fine line the film actors managed to walk more deftly – the effort overall is appealing, especially from the young actors, led on opening night by a winningly earnest Keaton Brandt as Ralphie and a hilariously animated William May as Randy. (They share the roles with Magnus Bohls and Diego Rodriguez, respectively.)

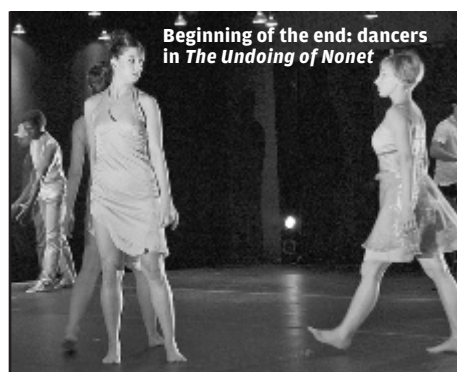
What keeps the play from being just a note-for-note cover of the movie is the physical presence of the narrator. Here, the adult Ralph shares the stage with his younger self, moving through his old home, sitting in his classroom, occasionally stepping into a scene to play someone from his past – he's part Stage Manager from *Our Town*, part Tom from *The Glass Menagerie*. This heightens Ralph's relationship to his past and demands the actor do much more than evoke the

film's disembodied voice. He has to live in this memory. With his folksy charm and easy manner (not to mention ample experience), Marco Perella would seem a fine fit for the role, but on opening night, he didn't sound at home with Shepherd's deliciously overwritten prose, and his spinning of the yuletide yarn lacked the immediacy of personal experience. He seemed a guest in someone else's Christmas story. That didn't take all the shine off this holiday tinsel, but it left a feeling not unlike opening the shiniest package under the tree and finding socks. – Robert Faires



COURTESY OF KIRK TUCK

**All together now: "You'll put
your eye out, kid!": Keaton
Brandt as Ralphie with the
BB gun of his dreams**



**Beginning of the end: dancers
in *The Undoing of Nonet***

COURTESY OF STEPHEN PRUITT

The Undoing of Nonet

**Salvage Vanguard Theater,
2803 Manor Rd.
Dec. 6**

"It's not the lightest work I've ever made," said Kathy Dunn Hamrick during her preshow introduction of *The Undoing of Nonet*. But it wasn't the most devastating, either. The 50-minute piece, danced to two vastly different pieces of music performed onstage by the percussion trio line upon line, was less shattering than Hamrick's *The Big Small*, which premiered in June. I was glad I'd seen both. While *The Big Small* considered a catastrophe, *Nonet* was quietly unsettling, depicting the undercurrent of malaise in the keepin' on and inevitable unraveling that might have followed that event.

Nonet refers to the nine dancers in the group, which was experiencing an actual undoing, as eight-year veteran Roxanne Gage was set to retire after the performances. At first, the dancers, costumed in variations of beige day-wear (by Laura Noose and Mandie Pitre), moved as one organism, forming soft shapes in silent waves until a mallet made a ground-splitting strike on a drum and one dancer

tore herself away from the chain. This point seemed overamplified, but I realized later that I needed such calling of attention to important moments: Because I was watching the musicians, I didn't notice when or how the first dancer left the stage. But then there were eight.

Hamrick developed the dance without music, selecting Iannis Xenakis' "Okho" and Ben Isaacs' "several inflections" from line upon line's repertoire six weeks into the process. "Okho" is loud, dynamic, aggressive; the musicians moved their mallets down to the drums as butchers with meat cleavers, and the dancers were at times propelled by their rhythms. But "several inflections" is a subtle, constant, tiny composition for three partial glockenspiels no bigger than babies' xylophones, which were played with red mallets thin as chopsticks. The intense concentration required of the three men to make these tiny, sustained sounds seemed to suggest a madness, or the oblique focus that makes art, in general, possible.

During "several inflections," the number of dancers onstage dwindled to five, and they required more of one another. Each took turns lifting others to help them raise their limbs toward the ceiling. The lighting, designed by Stephen Pruitt, came from 65 or so halogen bulbs suspended from a wooden grid above the stage, and whenever a dancer's toe or finger brushed one of the bulbs, the entire apparatus swayed. Near the end of the piece, groups of the lights flickered, as if their power source was faltering. Soon after, the instruments' final tones faded into nothing, and dancer Shari Brown was alone, curled, just off-center. She stayed there long enough that, as though seasons had passed, her crouching human form surrendered its defense and became a beautiful, earthly shape.

– Jonelle Seitz



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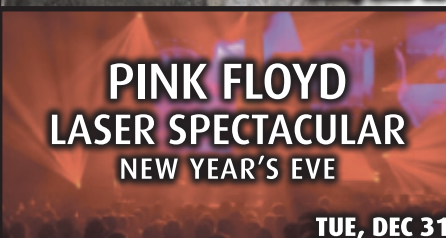
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SAT, DEC 21



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TUE, DEC 31



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& the Mu'tet**

**SUN
JAN 12**



Eddie Money

**FRI
JAN 17**



Dailey & Vincent

**SAT
JAN 18**



Gregg Rolie

**SUN
JAN 19**



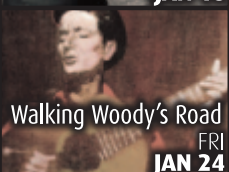
Stickmen

**MON
JAN 20**



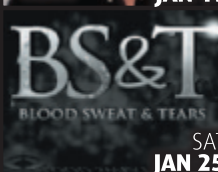
Hot Tuna

**TUE
JAN 21**



Walking Woody's Road

**FRI
JAN 24**



**BS&T
BLOOD SWEAT & TEARS**

**SAT
JAN 25**



Stanley Jordan

**SUN
JAN 26**



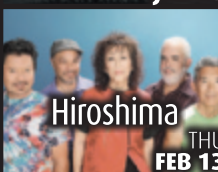
Strunz & Farah

**FRI
JAN 31**



Hal Ketchum

**SAT
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Hiroshima

**THU
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**Jon Anderson
Voice of Yes**

**SUN
FEB 23**



**The Chieftains
AT RIVERBEND CENTRE**

**WED
FEB 26**



Monte Montgomery

**THU
FEB 27**



The Lettermen

**FRI
FEB 28**



**Sharon
Corr**

**TUE
MAR 4**



Noche Flamenca

**THU & FRI
MAR 6 & 7**



Johnny Clegg

**WED
MAR 19**



**Arturo
Sandoval**

**FRI
MAR 21**

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SPYRO GYRA	4.11.14
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CHRIS BOTTI AT RIVERBEND CENTRE	4.24.14
JOHN FORD COLEY & TERRY SYLVESTER	4.27.14

JEFF LORBER FUSION W/ JIMMY HASLIP & ERIC MARIENTHAL	5.4.14
TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS	5.8.14
LEE RITENOUR	5.9.14
JOAN OSBORNE	5.15.14
ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY	5.30.14
HOWIE DAY	6.4.14
CALIFORNIA GUITAR TRIO	6.8.14
GINO VANNELLI	6.13 & 6.14.14

TROUT FISHING IN AMERICA	6.15.14
DAN HICKS & THE HOT LICKS	6.19.14
10,000 MANIACS	7.18.14
FIREFALL	7.25.14
PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE	8.3.14
ATLANTA RHYTHM SECTION	8.15.14
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THE ARTS STYLE

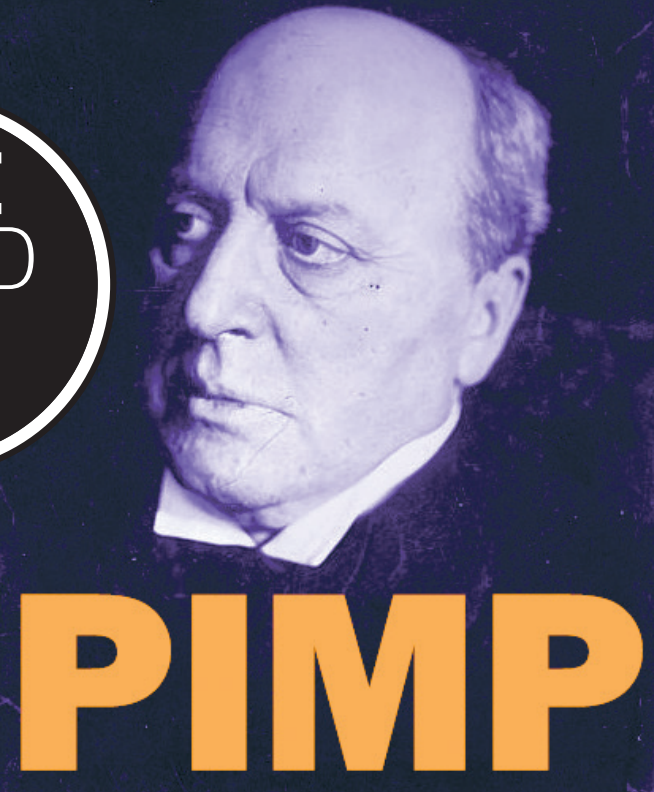
Your new style columnist, alas, is not the world's most stylish woman. That would be Miroslava Duma, or possibly Auntie Mame. Whenever your new style columnist attempts to dress like either of those delightful beings, or Diana Ross or Debbie Harry or Jennifer Connelly in *Labyrinth*, she is thwarted by her hair. To achieve the most basic degree of pillary predictability on her wedding day, your new style columnist had to wear a hairnet for 10 hours straight. In her getting-ready photos, your new style columnist resembles Gladys Ormphy.

That's not to say I don't make an effort. (Cat's out of the bag – I'm your new style columnist.) I just lack the commitment of the truly stylish. I'm an amateur, a dilettante, an enthusiast. I like any style, all styles – who can pick? Plus I have a Ph.D. in English, which means I spent six years crying in pajama pants. If there's anything that ruins your chances of a stylish life, it's too much time spent crying in pajama pants, an experience that leaves you with worry lines and an inflated sense of the quality of *Battlestar Galactica*.

My time in graduate school was not entirely wasted, however. In addition to learning some advanced techniques in retail therapy during those Ph.D. years, I thought and wrote a lot about style as a concept. In any art form, style is what distinguishes one artist from another. Style is specificity. It's the shimmer of vibrato in a singer's voice, the tilt of an actor's chin, that twiddly thing your favorite guitar player does. It's the way the camera moves in *Citizen Kane*, the way Emily Dickinson punctuates or Gertrude Stein doesn't. It's the way Henry James wore pants.

THE GOOD EYE BY AMY GENTRY

HENRY JAMES:



Most agree that Henry James, the 19th century American writer I blame for my Pajama Years, was terminally repressed. He observed the strictest decorum in his personal affairs, had fearfully impacted bowels, and hated Oscar Wilde and other modern inventions. Nonetheless, toward the end of his life, as Henry James' writing style became ever more elaborate and distinctive, so too did his style of dress. In 1901, according to his contemporary Henry Dwight Sedgwick (grandfather of style icon Edie Sedgwick, incidentally), a typical Jamesian ensemble consisted of "tight check trousers, waistcoat of a violent pattern, coat with short tails like a cock sparrow – none matching; cravat in a magnificent flowery bow." As well as offering a valid argument for inscribing his name next to fellow pimp Ice Cube's on the Goodyear Blimp, James' late sartorial extrav-

agance also testifies to a certain sympathy between style in life and style in art – as if his increasingly florid and labyrinthine sentences were being stuffed along with his buttocks into the tight, checked trousers of style.

Whether manifesting itself in garments or grammar, vestments or verbosity, style is ultimately nothing more or less than creative living. And Austin is the capital of creative living. Like many, I came to this city at 18 for college and found my spiritual home where the breakfast tacos were cheap and the values of creativity, self-expression, and collaboration were assumed to be of the utmost importance. The breakfast tacos are still affordable; the rent, less so. But the spirit of acceptance and community lives on here, and Austin's habit of encouraging one to be oneself

continues to make living here worth the pain of seeing it change, and the effort of preserving its values. Leslie knew that, God rest his thong-wearing soul.

It is this uniquely Austinish concept of style that inspires the Good Eye. When we speak of a "good eye," we typically mean a discerning one; but a "good eye" can also mean a benevolent person who celebrates the good fortunes of others – an enthusiastic supporter, as it were. This column exists to celebrate and support style, lifestyle, and aesthetic culture in Austin. In the coming weeks, you can expect to see street fashion, profiles of artists of all stripes, tours of local businesses, general musings, and little snapshots of what make this city such a fun and stylish place. And while your new style columnist's coiffure may fail from time to time, her eye, I hope, will not.

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FOOD



COURTESY OF JARED MOSSMAN

they have a syndicated TV show set to begin airing in January. Yet their wares aren't currently sold in any Austin store. "Sometimes your hometown is the hardest nut to crack," laughs Donna Collins, the primary jelly maker. Collins, along with her partners Susan Schmidt and Peggy Maxson, make, distribute, and sell their small-batch, very original products.

What makes these jellies so special? "It all started with my Champagne jelly," says Collins. "My friend Susan signed me up to compete on *MasterChef* with Gordon Ramsay, as a surprise. And it was a surprise to me! I made it all the way to California. My dish was a Dutch baby with fruit and Champagne jelly; I must have made a hundred batches of jelly, getting it just right for the competition. One of the judges, Ferdinand Metz, the executive dean of Le Cordon Bleu, pulled me aside and said, 'Never mind whether you win this or not – you need to go home and get this jelly into production. It's one of the best things I have ever tasted.' So I took his advice, and here I am." Then Collins told me her secret: "Everything we do has a little twist of something special in it; either Champagne or wine or ale or lambic or port. We even have one we make with mead. The alcohol cooks off, but the complex sugars remain."

Their biggest sellers are Banana Nut Bread Jam and Black Garlic Rosemary Sauce, though Collins says that the fact that those two are available nearly year-round might have something to do with that. "We mainly use locally grown, organic produce, so of course many of our flavors are only available at certain times of year. For instance, we are out of the blood orange marmalade until January, when the next crop comes in." Flavors now available include Strawberry Black Pepper Jam, Four Berry Jam, Raspberry Chipotle Jam, Peach Pepper Jam, Tomato Basil Jelly, Six Pepper Jelly, Sassy Apple Fig Jam, Shallot Onion Fig Jam, and the two top sellers.

The Jelly Queens also make ice cream sauces named the Ice Queens, and a line of spice rubs called the Spice Kings. Collins admits that she just loves caramel and began making a caramel ice cream topping for her own use. "It's a completely different process," she says. "But I can very proudly say that people tell me their knees buckle when they taste my caramel – it's that good." The Ice Queens line includes Chocolate Stout Sauce, Habanero Chocolate Sauce, and Spiced Caramel Sauce.

The Spice Kings evolved in an unusually modern way: Collins met a man on Facebook who made a line of spice rubs, and they traded products. She fell in love with the rubs (not the man), and found herself using them on nearly every savory thing she cooked. When she learned that the spice rub business was for sale, she got together the money and bought it.

The Jelly Queens' products are available at their online store, www.thejellyqueens.com. – Kate Thornberry

From Unknown to Throne

SUGAR AND SPICE FROM AUSTIN'S JELLY QUEENS

Looking for a unique hostess gift or stocking stuffer this holiday season? You couldn't do better than a jar of organic, locally made sweetness from Austin's own Jelly Queens. What makes it extra unique is that, although the Jelly Queens have achieved national fame, their products are nearly unknown here in their hometown. Their Blood Orange Lavender Marmalade was named a Good Food Awards Finalist this September, their jellies and jams can be found in more than 50 exclusive shops from Beverly Hills to New York, and

Meal Times Dec. 13-19

► **HOLIDAY TEA AT THE DRISKILL** Adults can sip Champagne while the kids enjoy hot chocolate plus a selection of tea sandwiches, desserts, and scones. Friday through Sunday afternoons from 3-5pm; reservations required. *Fri.-Sun., through Dec. 22, 3-5pm. The Driskill Hotel, 604 Brazos, 512/439-1234. \$45 (\$25, kids).*

► **HOLIDAY DINNER** Chefs John Bates and Brandon Martinez host an "odd bits" themed, multicourse holiday meal. BYOB; reserve by phone or email. *Fri., Dec. 13, 8pm. Noble Sandwich Company, 11815 RR 620 N. #4, 512/382-6248. \$65. noblepigaustin@gmail.com.*

► **COOKING COMPETITION TV SHOW CASTING CALL** Sharp Entertainment will be in town casting a new food competition series called *Frankenfood* for Spike TV. Aspiring contestants are encouraged to show up with a unique dish featuring an odd combination that actually tastes good. See website for more details. *Sat., Dec. 14, 10am-5pm. DoubleTree Hotel, 6505 N. I-35, 512/454-3737. www.sharpentertainment.com/casting/frankenfood.*

► **MICKLETHWAIT CRAFT MEATS ANNIVERSARY PARTY** These guys have had a great first year and want to celebrate with all their friends and fans. They'll be serving food and hosting a domino tourney from noon-3pm (sign up by email) and will offer live music after 3pm. Y'all come. *Sun., Dec. 15, noon-6pm. Micklethwait Craft Meats, 1309 Rosewood, 512/791-5961. craftmeats@gmail.com.*

► **AFTERNOON WITH SANTA** Give Santa the Xmas list in person and have family photos taken with the jolly old elf, or take them yourself. Cookie decorating, holiday crafts, and live music by Joe McDermott. Reservations required. *Sun., Dec. 15, 2-5pm. The Driskill Hotel, 604 Brazos, 512/439-1234. \$25.*

► **THE COOKIE TAKEDOWN** Matt Timms is back with another Takedown competition and this time, he wants talented home cooks to enter the most delectable batch of baked cookies they've ever made. Email Matt at chilitakedown@gmail.com to enter for the opportunity to win hundreds of dollars' worth of big-name cookware prizes. *Sun., Dec. 15, 2-4pm. Shangri-La, 1016 E. Sixth, 512/524-4291. www.thetakedowns.com.*

FARMERS' MARKET REPORT

It is time to pre-order grass-fed, free-range lamb roasts, hams, and Christmas geese from area ranchers and farmers. Craftspeople are coming out in full force to all Austin farmers' markets this weekend with jewelry, clothing, accessories, toys, candles, pottery, jams, jellies, soaps, and other unique gifts. One gift item I saw at the Mueller Market is so fantastic, I've already bought three! Find out what it is in Friday's expanded FMR (austinchronicle.com/daily/food/farmers-market-report).

– Kate Thornberry

► **RETRO HOLIDAY BASH** Bring a White Elephant gift worth no more than \$10 for admittance to this retro-themed party and enjoy festive foods like vegan nog, "cheeze" plates, and plenty of sweet treats, or purchase the new menu item, the Soul Food Burrito. *Tue., Dec. 17, 6-9pm. Counter Culture, 2337 E. Cesar Chavez, 512/524-1540.*

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

I'll admit it, I haven't exactly gotten caught up in the **In-N-Out Burger** hysteria, but now that the first Austin location is opening up mere blocks from the *Chronicle* offices on one of my regular travel paths, I will certainly be checking it out. The Round Rock location opened last week to great excitement, and we're told the second metro area In-N-Out Burger (4508 N. I-35) outlet will open this week. A third outlet in Cedar Park should not be far behind. What interests me more than an actual In-N-Out burger is the fact that Austin is such a hot burger town these days. Count 'em up: eight **P. Terry's Burger Stand** outlets currently, with a total of 12 projected; four **Mighty Fine Burgers & Fries**; three **Five Guys Burgers**; two **Smashburgers**, with another on the way; two **Hopdoddy Burger Bars**; and a **Shake Shack** coming in 2014. And speaking of Smashburger, in keeping with their concept to partner up with a different local craft brewer in each market, look for the Austin outlets to be featuring **Real Ale** beers.

There's more good news where openings are concerned. Bryce Gilmore's **Odd Duck** (1201 S. Lamar) has landed and is definitely serving soft-opening dinners this week, and **La Condesa** (400 W. Second) reopened for dinner on Monday, Dec. 9, after being closed for fire repairs since Nov. 2.

The Austinville 78750 development (13265 Hwy. 183 N.) that includes an Amy's Ice Creams and a Phil's Icehouse is now also home to **Baked by Amy's**, a pastry shop that creates decorated ice cream cakes as well as a line of cookies, cupcakes, brownies, and more. I had one of their lovely little ice cream cakes back on Valentine's Day, and it was delightful. Can designer ice cream sandwiches be far behind? We'll be sending someone for a full report.

Another food item that is getting lots of attention in Austin is pizza, what with **Stephen Dilley** of **Bufalina** (1519 E. Cesar Chavez) raising the bar on Neapolitan pizza, **Home Slice** (1415 S. Congress) adding Neapolitan dough to their menu on Mondays, and the **Uchi/Uchiko** team planning a pizza parlor and bake shop for 2014. Into the local pizza fray comes **Due Forni Pizza & Wine** (106 E. Sixth), the second outlet of a popular Las Vegas pizza restaurant owned by former Austinite **Alex Taylor**. Taylor and his business partner, chef **Carlos Buscaglia**, founded the original Due Forni in 2011, boasting the only dual-oven pizza system in the country. With one oven set at 500 degrees to cook what they describe as "authentic Romana thin crust pizza" and another set at 900 degrees to turn out the thicker, chewier Neapolitan crust, Due Forni could have all the pizza bases covered. The full-service restaurant will also offer a full menu of hot and cold appetizers, entrées baked in the wood-fired ovens, a substantial selection of wines from Italy and Argentina, cocktails, and local craft beers. Due Forni opens today, Dec. 12, in the former Louie's 106 location in the historic Littlefield building Downtown.

Drop In, Have Drinks, Hang Out

New neighborhood hot spots

One of the most interesting repercussions of the high cost of Downtown real estate is the migration of new independent bars and restaurants to the fringes of Central city neighborhoods. Everywhere from SoLa and SoCo to Burnet Road, North Loop, Manor Road, and Airport Boulevard, a new generation of entrepreneurs is turning old houses, auto parts stores, and warehouses into casual eateries and watering holes, offering neighborhoods walkable and bike-able spots for dining and socializing closer to home. Based on the recent investigations of three of these newish spots by *Chronicle* food writers Melanie Haupt, Anna Toon, and Jessi Cape, it's obvious they are already demonstrating an undeniable hang-out-ability factor. But we couldn't call any of them a dining destination just yet. — Virginia B. Wood

Haymaker

2310 Manor Rd., 512/234-6702
Mon.-Fri., 11am-12mid; Sat., 11am-1am;
Sun., 11am-12mid
www.haymakeraustin.com

From the folks who brought you Black Sheep Lodge comes Haymaker, the second recently opened Manor Road pub geared toward sandwich-loving beer drinkers. One of Haymaker's claims to fame is the poutine (\$7.49), a Canadian dish featuring french fries topped with cheese curds and drenched in gravy. Haymaker offers two varieties of poutine: traditional, with brown gravy, and Southern style, with white gravy. They are both very tasty, the traditional version skewing toward salty and beefy while the Southern style opts for a mellow approach. However, the best part of the poutine experience is spearing a plump ribbon of gravy-warmed cheese curd on a fork along with a french fry, then reveling in the marriage of textures as you race to finish the dish before it grows cold. Despite the menu's claim, there were no cheese curds (Wisconsin or otherwise) in sight on separate visits. Rather, the cheese in both versions of the dish appears to be shredded, perhaps to facilitate melting, but that's not the point of poutine. Poutine without cheese curds is just fries covered in gravy.

The other selling point of Haymaker's menu is the assortment of "regionally inspired" sandwiches, from plate-hogging, meat-heavy monstrosities to tidy little grilled cheeses delicately stuffed with herbs, bagged lettuce mix, fruit, and nuts. Sandwiches from the Big and Burly portion of the menu come open-faced and smothered in the gastropub's signature "Gruyère" sauce, which is a rather ghastly yellow and tastes strongly of Velveeta. As a result, the delicate flavors of the Croque Monsieur (\$9.49) — which traditionally derives its sturdiness from the combination of rich béchamel, salty ham, and nutty Gruyère — are crushed under the boot of a greasy, processed cheese gloop. The Louisville Slugger (\$9.99), a riff on the Benedictine bacon sandwich at Louisville's Cheddar Box Cafe, fares only slightly better, with heaps of sliced turkey breast and generous spears of seared bacon holding their own against the nefarious sauce.

The sandwiches from the Bomber Style and A La Plancha sections of the menu were fine and mostly forgettable. In fact, I had to refer to a receipt from a previous visit to recall that I'd had a Margherita Grilled Cheese (\$8.49), about which I have no strong feelings either way. The salads and desserts are an afterthought; save your calories for another round of drinks.



Because Haymaker is a bar as much as it is a restaurant, patrons should adjust their expectations accordingly. Flat-screen TVs line the west wall of the dining area, and the music is distractingly loud and forecloses upon any hopes of companionable conversation. Service is uneven, at times benignly negligent and at others displaying appropriate attention to detail. For example, the experience of sharing an order of drippy, messy poutine when you've been provided side plates, forks, and napkins is eminently preferable to the alternative.

Where Haymaker shines is in its extensive collection of beers both global and local in provenance, as well as signature cocktails, like the Moscow Mueller (\$7), that emphasize the proprietors' dedication to satisfying the diverse palates of East Austin drinkers. I must take exception, though, to the portion of the beer menu described as "White Trash Canned Beers." Cheeky, ironic, hipster classist racism is still classist racism. With its pool tables, dartboards, impressive bar menu, and comfortable patio, Haymaker is destined to enjoy a long tenure as a beloved local for the denizens of Manor Road. As a fun place to hang out, Haymaker is a knockout. As a dining destination, it utterly fails to connect. — Melanie Haupt



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

School House Pub

2207 Manor Rd., 512/469-7630
Mon.-Fri., 3pm-12mid; Sat., 3pm-1am
www.schoolhousepub.com

A bright yellow schoolhouse with a flashing traffic light and a bell tower: It's difficult to miss this recent addition to Manor Road's restaurant row. Opened in August by experienced restaurateurs Edgar and Christina Torres, School House Pub offers 20 Texas beers on tap, custom cocktails, and a selection of burgers, sandwiches, and plates for sharing. Former owners of the now-shuttered Zandunga, the husband-and-wife duo are no doubt hoping to match the success of neighborhood mainstay Mi Madre's, the Torres family's restaurant next door.

Though the cozy atmosphere's decor could easily be overdone or gimmicky, School House effectively walks the line between kitschy and nostalgic. The renovated house features beautiful and rustic woodwork; playing to the schoolhouse theme, the menus are printed on index cards while draft beers are listed in handwriting on a giant chalkboard behind the service counter. An additional detention-style chalkboard reads a repeated "I will not make out under the bleachers." It's charming, and it works.

However, while School House Pub has quickly become a popular hangout, a place for congregating after work or for a casual dinner date, the food doesn't make the grade. There was no need to line up for so-called "recess" at the pub as a weekday happy hour saw friendly and prompt service. Though the draft list is heavy on the dark malts and could use a better offering of IPAs, ales, and lagers, the options in bottles, cans, and bombers even out the selection. My companion and I quickly ordered two drinks and two plates to share as an appetizer. Unfortunately, my friend was given a mystery stout instead of the Ranger Creek Saison he ordered. No worries, the beer lover drank it anyway. I ordered a Hall Pass: St. George gin and muddled blackberry topped with sparkling peach soda. It was excellent, not overly sweet and just stout enough. While the ingredients are likely better suited for a warm summer evening, it worked equally well in December in Austin.

Lured by the fire pit, we headed outside to a picnic table armed with our table number index card perched atop a ruler positioned inside a chalkboard eraser. We started out with the Montreal Fries (\$6), the School House version of Canadian poutine. Described as fries tossed with braised short ribs, gravy, and cheese curds, what arrived at our table was a monstrous heap of fries so laden with garlic that we heard a woman at the next table exclaim, "Oh my God, that's a lot of garlic!" There were a couple of sporadic cheese curds, an utter lack of gravy, and then there was meat. I have a difficult time believing those were short ribs. Whatever it was tasted like less-than-fresh stewed brisket haphazardly strewn on top of fries. Hoping for a better result, we moved along to the Red Chile Wings (\$7). Based on the menu description, we expected spicy *guajillo* chile hot wings topped with Cotija cheese and a Mexican crema. However, I'm still bewildered as to what we were actually served. How a dish with these ingredients could be prepared with an end result lacking in any discernible flavor is beyond my comprehension. Whereas a cool crema would have been a welcome addition to balance out the expected fire, in this instance it just added to the overall blandness, and the Cotija was also noticeably absent. The School House Pub Burger (\$6.50) — comprised of made-in-house ground beef, aged cheddar, local greens, and jalapeño-onion marmalade — did not fare any better. The ground beef was overly peppered and did not pair well with the challah bun. Insult to injury, instead of jalapeño-onion marmalade, we got a pile of stewed onions.

Though the School House is certainly a bustling hot spot, with the competition on Manor's restaurant row continually heating up, the cafeteria needs some serious tutoring. Based on our grading scale, we give it an A for ambience, beer, and cocktails, a B- for service, and a failing grade for the food. Class dismissed.

— Anna Toon

continued on p.48

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FOOD NEIGHBORHOOD HOT SPOTS *continued from p.46*



The ABGB: Austin Beer Garden Brewing Co.
1305 W. Oltorf, 512/298-2242
Tue.-Thu., 11:30am-11pm; Fri., 11:30am-12mid; Sat., noon-12mid; Sun., noon-10pm
www.theabgb.com

South of the river, near the railroad tracks, and nestled under giant trees on a two-acre lot almost entirely hidden from the street, lives Austin's newest beer garden. We spotted the on-site brewery, but it was not until we parked and walked up to the building that the spacious, welcoming watering hole fully revealed itself. On a recent Saturday night, the two-tiered patio, lit with twinkly lights and standing heaters, was bustling, but not overcrowded. Inside, the converted warehouse was booming and almost all of the long communal tables were full, but we only waited approximately five minutes in line before reaching the counter to order. Our first round was pints (\$4.50) of two of their permanent beers on tap, Superliner IPA and Industry Pils. The latter was my favorite of the night – crisp, clean, and not too hoppy – but both were delicious, and we headed out to the top deck's wooden spools with our John Belushi Polaroid table flag to await our food.

First up was the Stuffed Portabella (\$8): Served piping hot, the big mushroom cap was stuffed with calabrese and kalamatas, drizzled with tomato sauce, topped with fresh basil and mozzarella, and baked to perfection. Had the rest of the order been on par with this lovely appetizer, the ABGB would have knocked it out of the park. Professing a focus on local, seasonal ingredients sourced from Johnson's Backyard Garden, Antonelli's Cheese Shop, Salt & Time Butcher Shop & Salumeria, Pure Luck Farm & Dairy, and Easy Tiger Bake Shop, the menu has staple, "Always" items and daily "Sometimes" dishes. The Special Slice (\$3.50) du jour was Muffaletta Pie, a white pie with ham, salami, provolone, and olive salad. Rich and decadent, it held up under the weight of a nice portion of high-quality meats and balanced well with the delicate béchamel and tangy olives. Gluten-free options are available on sandwiches and pizzas, and any sandwich plate is a great value at \$10, though our Caprese prosciutto selection had a couple of

hiccups. The prosciutto was divine, and the fresh mozzarella, basil, and perfectly crispy baguette would have stacked up had the out-of-season tomato slices not been, well, out of season and pithy. I would return just for this sandwich plate (and several more stuffed 'bellas and brews) if only the chef would remove it until the summertime when tomatoes are plump, red, and juicy.

The Caesar salad was fresh and crispy, but lacked enough dressing to touch every leaf. The atmosphere is exactly as promised – fun, friendly, and casual – and only when it was time for our second round of beer did we realize the main course had never arrived. Back to the counter for pints of the Day Trip Pale Ale (a close second-place favorite) and Big Mama Red (hop heads will fall in love with this formidable brew) and a reorder of one of their special 16-inch pies: sausage, caramelized onions, red and yellow bell peppers, and feta (\$22). When it finally showed up, smelling like success, I thought, "Here we go!" Sadly, the pie took this dedicated pizza lover straight to Disappointment Town. Conceptually, it is a great combo, but the issue was strictly execution. The slices oozed grease, yet somehow the crust was dry (was it cooked in a bowl?). The caramelized onions were translucent – it was obvious they had never been given a chance to reach their beautiful, sweet brown potential in the short pizza oven cooking time; and we actually used a flashlight to look for the feta (it was there, but it was sparse). The crumbled sausage, fresh mixed bells, robust sauce, and bubbling cheese offered some redemption. However, the comparable combos and superior quality of East Side Pies still has my heart.

Still, with a few technique tweaks, this menu could be excellent, and I will certainly return to try the habanero bacon pie, deviled eggs, and beet salad. The ABGB embodies one of the best Austin pastimes – drinking good beer outside with friends – and it's already on the way to establishing itself as a popular neighborhood hangout. — *Jessi Cape*

overheard with evan smith

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Ready and Abel

DRAFTHOUSE FILMS UNLEASHES ABEL FERRARA'S 'MS. 45' ON AUSTIN AND NYC

by Richard Whittaker

Abel Ferrara loves New York. But for every New Yorker, there's a different New York. "We're shooting the street from the view of the character," said the veteran filmmaker. "If he's the cop in *Bad Lieutenant*, he might be anywhere, you dig? If it's a character like the driller killer, he ain't leaving his house. He's staying close to the fucking Lower East Side."

In 1981's underground classic *Ms. 45*, re-released this week through Drafthouse Films, New York is the grimy sweatshops of the Garment District. That's where mute seamstress Thana (Zoë Lund) lives and works; it's also where she is raped not once, but twice. Shattered and unable to communicate her abuse, she picks up a gun and cuts a bloody swath through the would-be rapists and street corner wolf-whistlers. In other rape-revenge movies, like 1978's *I Spit on Your Grave*, it's the bad guys getting their comeuppance. Thana is less discerning, and for every act of vengeance, there's a death that leaves the audience wondering about their damaged heroine. "At what point does revenge stop?" Ferrara asked.

Before filming *Ms. 45*, Ferrara and his long-time screenwriter Nicholas St. John only had two feature credits to their names: 1979's infamous splatter-shocker *The Driller Killer*, and their debut, 1976 porno *9 Lives of a Wet Pussy*. That made it a little easier to kick

open with the film's shocking opening act of Thana's assaults. "After you've drilled someone in the head, I mean, c'mon," Ferrara said. Yet the film is about a lot more than just rape and easy cinematic revenge. Three decades later, post-Bernhard Goetz, post-George Zimmerman, in the era of Stand Your Ground and concealed carry, America still roils with the debate about self-defense. Ferrara said: "At what point do you say, 'Hey, I'm defending myself here. I don't know what this guy's going to do. Do I have a right to carry that gun?' These are the questions that are still being asked every day."

The issues are still pertinent, but why exactly re-release now? Ferrara said, "You'll have to ask Evan."

That'll be Drafthouse Films Creative Director Evan Husney. "The easy answer is that I've always loved the movie," he explained. The more complex version involves the reality show *Shipping Wars*. In one episode, the Drafthouse's American Genre Film Archive project received a container full of old movies. When Husney started sifting through the cans, he found "an absurd amount of *Ms. 45* 35mm prints." He was inspired not just to bring the movie back to cinemas, but also to change its place in the canon. "It's been marketed as this sleazy, Eighties, 42nd Street-type movie, and that's partially what it

is. ... But there are flourishes in this film of *Repulsion* and Polanski and the anxieties of European psychological thrillers."

So this weekend, after years relegated to beat-up celluloid and tattered VHS tapes, *Ms. 45* opens in Austin – the home of Drafthouse Films – and New York. Makes sense; NYC is the city that made Ferrara a film lover, spending hour after hour soaking up every vintage arthouse and well-worn grindhouse title he could. "Most of the films I saw, the films that really moved me, I saw in a retrospective-type situation." While there'll be a DVD next year, it's clear he gets a kick out of knowing that the film will be back on real screens. "As a person who literally carried film cans

around for a long, long, long time, to have my own film in the inner pocket of my sports jacket, I really appreciate that. But at the same time, it's part of a tradition that movies are watched in a communal situation, and they're watched big, real big. And even though I'm guilty of iPhoning these movies, it's not the same deal, you dig?"

More than three decades after it scorched screens, *Ms. 45* still hits hard, and it was finding new audiences even before this re-release. Last year, another New York shocker classic, 1980's *Maniac*, was transplanted to

Los Angeles for a remake. Ferrara's film goes much further. "A woman wants to make it in Cairo. How's that for a remake? I told her [to] go for it." Ferrara still credits Lund's performance as the damaged and dangerous Thana for the film's abiding power. "She was 17 years old, and she got it," he said. "She was on scholarship to an Ivy League university, and she understood what was going on, the movie aspect of it. And she's obviously a gifted, gifted actress. It was a perfect marriage of the character and the screenplay."

The other major character is Ferrara's life-long muse: NYC. At the cusp of the Eighties, the movie world revolved around the Big Apple. In 1979, the Oscars were dominated by *Kramer vs. Kramer* and *Manhattan*. A year later, *Raging Bull* delivered a knock-out punch from Hell's Kitchen. Ferrara's New York may have seemed a million miles away from those bigger productions, but for him, it was just a couple of stops on the subway. "We were New York filmmakers," he said. "We weren't street-shooting, college avant-garde movie makers. ... We were selling tickets to movies. We're not just showing this to our friends after we smoked a bunch of joints." He pointed to a distinctive style of filmmaking, defined by cinematographers Michael Chapman (*Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull*) and Gordon Willis (*Manhattan*, the *Godfather* trilogy). It seeped into *Ms. 45*, not least because the same union crews that worked on those sets were pulling duty on Ferrara's little revenge flick. He said, "It was made out of an IA world, with 35 millimeter and [New York audio studio] Sound One and blah blah blah. It might not have been a big budget, but it was definitely a film of the era of those DPs and great directors."

Ms. 45 was a tough shoot, footage captured on a run-and-gun schedule. Ferrara said, "I just shot documentary-style, so it's not like I was changing anything." Every scene was a steep learning curve. "We shoot quicker now, because we know what we're doing. But then, every shot was the first. Dolly shots, this and that, just getting the equipment together." The season and the schedule took its toll, as Ferrara and his crew avoided tempests and what he called the "Pied Piper-type rats" of Central Park. "I ended up in the hospital, just through exhaustion, and they kept shooting without

me," Ferrara recalled. "It was pouring rain, and I thought, 'Well, maybe we can stop for a night,' but the DP's going, 'Wow, I can really use this rain.' I'm thinking, 'Man,

we've got to work all night tonight.'"

Still, *Ms. 45* returns to a different New York than that of the 42nd Street sleaze pits and Times Square crimes of its era. Ferrara said, "There's not one inch of an abandoned anything anymore. Every square inch of Manhattan, from the George Washington Bridge to Chinatown, is taken, polished, it's up and running. It's amazing." Still, he has his own ideas for bringing the grime back. "Tell Evan to let a few rats loose in the theatre, bust out some crackheads, so you can really feel 42nd Street." ■

Ms. 45 opens Friday in Austin. See Film Listings, p.64, for showtimes.

Gaming by the Numbers

WHO NEEDS REVIEWS WHEN WE HAVE PURE DATA?
BY JAMES RENOVITCH AND SHELLEY HIAM



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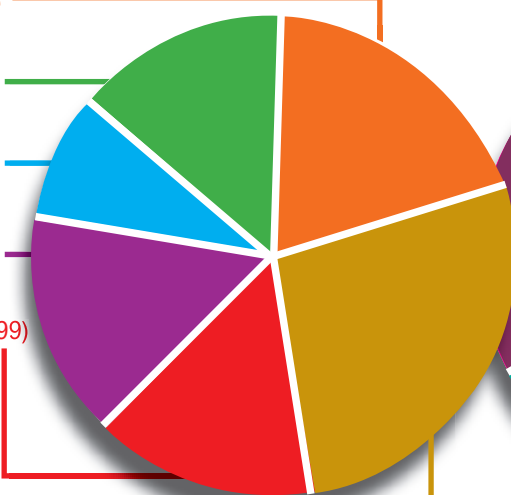
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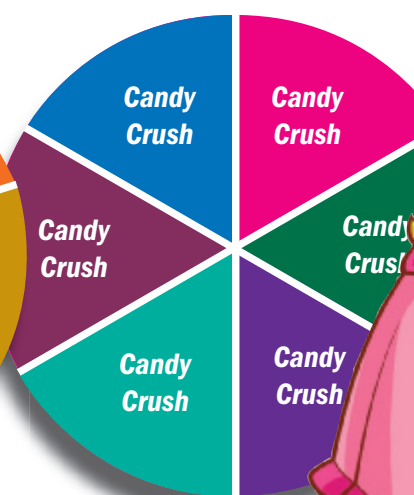
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24/7 Time playing *Zelda* once you get it for the holidays

182 Hours playing with Nintendo 3DS handheld

181 Hours playing *Animal Crossing*

3 Ouya marketing gaffes

2 % of Americans who know what an Ouya is

1 Must-have game for the Ouya (*Towerfall*)

0 Must-have new games for Xbox One and PS4



Big Release Breakdown

Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag



Tearaway



Call of Duty: Ghosts



Forza Motorsport 5



Ryse: Son of Rome



Super Mario 3D World



The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds



Gran Turismo 6



Pokemon X & Y



NBA 2K14



Resogun



LocoCycle



Dead Rising 3



Playable princess



Zombie poodles



Wicked lasers



Playable dog



Exotic locales



Sentient cycles en Español



No actual ghosts



Beware: artiness



Super cuteness



Horsies!



Top-down



Please ignore the story



Squirrels



Includes hunting



Squirrel, not squirrel



Dudes with swords



Dudes with guns



LeBron



Selfies



Vehicle porn

Alex,
Wise men come
bearing diamonds.
♡ Sarah



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I Saw Mommy Snogging Santa Claus: Wild Bill, his wife Amanda, and a bottle of holiday spirit

SHELLEY HIAW

Sad, Bad Santa

Wild Bill has himself a musical

BY CHASE HOFFBERGER

One time, I showed up to Antone's and told Wild Bill I wanted a part in his Christmas show.

"We might be down an elf," he said. "Wear this. I'll feed you the lines."

A year earlier, maybe, my buddy Paul arrived at Wild Bill's birthday party, asked what he could do to help, and was instructed to guard the bathroom to make sure people only passed water in there. Three hours he did that.

During his happy-hour residency at Flipnotics, Wild Bill once stopped his show mid-set and made everybody in attendance walk outside. There, he orchestrated a contest to find hot dogs he'd hidden on the hillside venue's many decks. The dogs themselves were decorated with google-eyed faces and doubled as the estranged children of Wild Bill's ukelele player, Future Dog, who'd dressed for the show as a hot dog of the future.

Today, the 35-year-old man born Bill Ogden and I are in the kitchen of his ranch-style funhouse in South Austin dicing deviled eggs in preparation for an egg-eating contest he's hosting between a bum and a bandmember at Flipnotics.

"I don't like deviled eggs," he says from behind his long black hair and Fu Manchu mustache. "I don't eat them. I'm just fascinated with how gross it is to watch other people eat them."

"We started passing them around at shows. Now we do contests."

Everybody in this town's a songwriter: your bartender, your boyfriend, your banker. Ogden is, too, but in the context of Wild Bill, everybody else sounds the same.

Raised in Tulsa, he acclimated to the Okie mean through Red Dirt country rock, but he always envied Beck. He met Amanda during his senior year in Stillwater, following that up with graduate school until her bachelor's was completed, then stuck around while she picked up an MBA as well. They drove to Vegas a week after she graduated in 2004, got married in a fever, and drove straight to Austin.

The two bought a house off Slaughter Lane, and Wild Bill's all over the place – the walls, the windows, the mantelpiece. There's a Don King wig on the big Peavy speakers in the living room – move the Darth Vader mask if you want to sit – and check out the light-up sign announcing his band, the Lost Knobs, in a corner of the garage. A noosed baby Santa hangs out of a closet in the hallway. No need to wonder where Wild Bill derives inspiration.

"I'll be a slaughtered female monster, and my wife will be me. And we'll kill each other, and the mystery will be born of who killed Wild Bill," he pitches.

In two offices down the hall, he's cooked up 13 projects, only one that's been released: a Halloween special; an interpretive dramatization of Beck's sheet music assembly *Song Reader*; a comic book illustrating the sacrificial-lamb-gone-awry story of his first band, the Burnups, a punk trio who

couldn't sell their souls to the devil in exchange for real chops because they'd pawned each off to a bum for street drugs in a drunken stupor that week; and the Christmas special, *Honky Tonk Holiday*, filed and copyrighted July 1, 2012.

"Amanda forced me to clean this room, and it almost caused a nervous breakdown," he says. "This room has been completely hoarded, but you can see all these papers are arranged in stacks. I know where everything is. I don't need to put it anywhere. I can put it into more piles and put it away, but then I'm just going to have to re-memorize everything."

Summarily shoved out of corporate and down to one household income, fired after a cup of coffee as a tax accountant at Freescale Semiconductor, a microprocessor plant stationed at three points around Austin, Bill turned his attention toward two bands: the Burnups and Sin Pantalones, which, well, you can imagine the garb. Once the former blew up and the latter went to tatters, alt.country amalgam the Lost Knobs incorporated everything and anyone. I saw him rope in a kid named Ryan the Caveman, who had shown up to Flipnotics with a keyboard and little clue, into every facet of a show, including the skits. It continues to this day, in fact, almost always for happy hour on Fridays.

It's there that old, weird Austin comes together, where dads, daughters, and bums all sit in a row and admire a song and dance about a sexually suggestive Wolfman ("I'm a lover not a biter, see/I'm a lover, don't Tase me"), and a ghost named Clyde who got so high he died.

"Toni Price at the Continental Club," references Bill as we add food coloring to the yolks of the deviled eggs. "Hear my songs and be all about the music, but we're also going to take a break, get high, and be cool to one another. It's an almost churchlike experience."

"Us, we're like Cheech and Chong. We're the old stoner South Austin that nobody's really doing these days."

In truth, nobody's doing anything close to Wild Bill. In two weeks it'll be Christmas. Last year, Bill gifted his audience with *Honky Tonk Holiday*, a 15-person, 30-minute musical production about Santa Claus' ugly, alcohol and "magic-dust"-riddled divorce from Mrs. Claus and the Big Man's subsequent journey down to Texas, where he gets mixed up with the wrong Santa for Hire broker and – gasp! – gets framed for a child's murder.

The show featured "acting" and musical contributions from any number of players seen around town each night – singers Jacob Jaeger and Kelly Galvin; the full cast of Whiskey Shivers – but this year, touring demands that they be replaced by an amalgamated assembly. Last year, the production went up and tore down three times in two weeks. At one of them, in the packed East Austin honky-tonk the White Horse, the crowd up front sat cross-legged on the floor.

"The play was me wanting to take things over the top," explains Bill. "I was writing original Christmas songs and thought it would be really funny, this sad, bad Santa."

With *Holiday*, Bill discovered he had himself a production, the manifestation of those spur-of-the-moment

ideas he'd conceived in South Austin.

"People ask me what I hope to achieve or accomplish," he says. "I try to get people to let loose. That's how I deal with my shit, and I make music that I hope helps people deal with their shit. There are no rules to making that happen." ■

Wild Bill and his ungainly troupe stage *Honky Tonk Holiday* three times this year as well: Sunday, Dec. 15, at Austin Beer Garden Brewing Co., 6:30pm; Tuesday, Dec. 17, at the Palm Door, 7pm, for the Chronicle's free music series *Paper Cuts* (RSVP: austinchronicle.com/paper-cuts); and Saturday, Dec. 21, at the White Horse, 9:45pm.

Last year, Bill gifted his audience with *Honky Tonk Holiday*, a musical about Santa Claus' ugly divorce and the Big Man's subsequent journey down to Texas, where he gets mixed up with the wrong Santa for Hire broker and – gasp! – gets framed for a child's murder.

Check out
our new style column
on page 42.



The Good Eye

Starring you, you sexy thing.

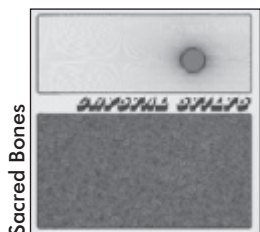
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Sub Pop

THE HEAD AND THE HEART Let's Be Still

The Head And The Heart do pretty much everything right on *Let's Be Still*.

-Alternative Press

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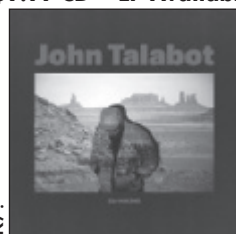


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ROCK & ROLL DVDs

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All the Labor (High Plains Films)

Endurance stands as the central theme in *All the Labor*, which focuses on Austin's beloved Gourds and feels flimsy in the wake of the group's recent hiatus. The roots-groove quintet, which formed in 1994 and tapped out this fall, arrives as a gang of fun-loving road warriors who built a cult fan base without mainstream appeal. "They tried to sell us to the hippies, they tried to sell us to the Americanos – we just never caught on in a big way," ruminates singer Kevin Russell. Nevertheless, as the live footage demonstrates, the Gourds' brews-y Southern surrealism, helmed by nail-tough bassist Jimmy Smith and squirrely strummer Russell, became a strange and beautiful phenomenon. Sadly, and though it seems improbable, director Doug Hawes-Davis made a boring movie about a really entertaining band. The Gourds talk about the Gourds (they know they're weird); the Gourds talk about their families (being in a band is challenging); the Gourds respect each other and believe in the music. C'mon. *All the Labor*, a merch table item for a merch table that no longer exists.

– Kevin Curtin

Ain't in It for My Health: A Film About Levon Helm (Kino Lorber)

Early in Jacob Hatley's 2010 documentary of Levon Helm, the singing, drumming backbone of the Band shuffles uneasily through his Woodstock farmhouse, home from tour for a couple days, tired and hurting. The image is striking in the revelation of Helm's gaunt, cancer-stricken body, legs thin, head bowed. Hatley doesn't shy away from following Helm into the hospitals, the moments fighting to recover his voice and facing his own

mortality and bills, yet that's not the portrait the director ultimately leaves us with. Released now on DVD, *Ain't in It for My Health* intimately chronicle's Helm's brief but brilliant resurgence following 2007 LP *Dirt Farmer*, touching sparingly on Band history, but only enough to elucidate the conflicted pride and bitterness the subject holds for his legacy. Harrowing and heartfelt, oscillating between Helm's harsh coughs and brilliant smile, the film concludes with him eschewing Grammy recognition for another "Midnight Ramble," surrounded by family and friends instead to celebrate the birth of his grandson.

– Doug Freeman

Big Star: Nothing Can Hurt Me (Magnolia Home Entertainment)

During their brief, cultish lifespan, Seventies power popsters Big Star failed to find a large audience, and visionary co-frontmen Chris Bell and Alex Chilton each paid a considerable price in the wake of that commercial failure. One of the many heartening facets about Drew DeNicola's soulful documentary is its emphasis upon the posthumous triumph of the Memphis combo, whose brilliant three-album oeuvre outlasted the band's career frustrations to inspire multiple generations of listeners and artists. With a lack of vintage performance footage and the absence of Bell (who died in 1978) and Chilton (who passed away during production), *Nothing Can Hurt Me* draws considerable insight from interviews with a small army of friends, colleagues, and acolytes, while using the band's sublimely bittersweet recordings to poignant effect. The DVD offers even more of a good thing, with an additional hour's worth of outtakes, interviews, and archive footage.

– Scott Schinder

Jurassic Docs

The Rolling Stones: Crossfire Hurricane (Eagle Rock Entertainment)

Springsteen & I (Eagle Rock Entertainment)

Jurassic rock, been there/done that, right? Not entirely. At this late date, to have both these "classic" acts produce essential documentaries on a pair of Blu-rays only reinforces their enduring relevance. Better still, parallel to the genre's existential yin/yang – Beatles vs. Stones – the contrast of white and black hats here glints sharply. Limping to their golden anniversary,

That's exclusively on display here, the four principals' voices ("no cameras were allowed") contextualizing the unlikely tale of a Beatles defector (Andrew Loog Oldham) employing the simple ploy of contrasting the Fab Four's wholesome image with a dangerous alternative and its yobboes coming to embody that all too

gift guide



Released! The Human Rights Concerts 1986-1998 (Shout! Factory)

Overshadowed by Live Aid, the Human Rights Concerts were perhaps a greater achievement. Presented by Amnesty International to raise money and awareness for its struggles worldwide, the more than two-dozen gatherings began in the U.S. in 1986, starring U2, Sting, Springsteen, Joni Mitchell, Lou Reed, Peter Gabriel, Jackson Browne, Jimmy Page & Robert Plant, Radiohead, Fela Kuti, and too many others to mention. A 6-DVD set clocking in at 17 hours, this is the season's box set to plunge down the rabbit hole with. Lots of nostalgia involved with a concert held more than 25 years ago, but the first two discs are the most tantalizing. Titled "A Conspiracy of Hope," these performances edit down a 12-hour MTV broadcast from New Jersey's Giants Stadium into one

inspired moment after another, like a reunited Police. Aided by a chorus of thousands, Gabriel's "Biko" remains chilling, as does U2 performing "Sun City" with Reed, Little Steven, Nona Hendryx, and Ruben Blades. Feature films chronicling the 1988-98 concerts amass on the remaining discs; don't miss Springsteen raving "La Bamba" for ecstatic Argentinians or a new interview with him in the bonus features, of which there's a massive amount. Home movies of an afterparty from Gabriel's personal collection and some Secret Policeman's Ball, the beginnings of the series featuring Pete Townshend, are essential. A 40-page booklet does more than just expand on the audio-visual content, providing a history of the movement from both producers and performers. If *Released! The Human Rights Concerts 1986-1998* seems intimidating – and it is, at times – there's also a 2-CD set with 30 tracks from the concerts that's almost as satisfying.

– Jim Caligiuri

Roy Orbison The Last Concert (Roy's Boys/Sony Legacy)

Roy Orbison Black & White Night (Roy's Boys/Sony Legacy)

From a company founded by his sons to preserve the legacy of rock's greatest operatic talent comes a pair of releases from the end of Roy Orbison's timeline (1936-88). The self-explanatory *Last Concert* CD/DVD package remasters the sights and sounds of an Orbison performance two days before he died of a heart attack at 52. In contrast to the fine audio of Orbison's last hour onstage, plus an interview from the same night and early-Eighties concert foot-



age, there's the incredible *Black & White Night*. Beautifully filmed for television in (yes) black & white, it captures Elvis Presley's TCB Band and an all-star cast including Tom Waits, Bruce Springsteen, Elvis Costello, and

k.d. lang giving the Vernon native spirited and affectionate backing. It plays as a cinematic work, heightening the drama inherent in Big O nuggets like "Running Scared" and "It's Over," and making these guest stars (especially an overjoyed Springsteen) look like unabashed fans and thus making everyone appear all the more human.

– Tim Stegall



England's Oldest Hitmakers called an unsteady truce in 2012-13 to tour briefly and even update Lorne Michaels' 1989 tour de force doc, 25x5, still the best tell-all on the band, and not on DVD. Director Brett Morgen's mixology skills in montaging together *Crossfire Hurricane* cranks out more than a few breathless peaks worthy of Mick Jagger and Keith Richards in their loving prime.

literally. (Sex Pistols, cough.) At 70 minutes, they're still clearing bodies at Altamont, the Maysles' terrifying *Gimme Shelter* cut together with Robert Frank's uncensored *Cocksucker Blues*, and by the end, they've barely breached 1981 ("can't be young forever ..."), but *Crossfire Hurricane* kicks the dark art of "Jumpin' Jack Flash" to the curb for the soul-spearing blues of "Sympathy for the Devil." Springsteen's camp, meanwhile, opens its vaults and publishing to Baillie Walsh, who splices together fan submissions on why they worship Jersey's folk prophet into a virtual audio-visual bible. From a smoldering truck driver to some dude weeping in his SUV and the Elvis impersonator who hijacked the E Street Band, *Springsteen & I* captures its subject through a reflection of those who adore him most and best. The thank-yous alone will wring tears, and a bonus Chinese flip-book beats all.

– Raoul Hernandez

Graham Parker & the Rumour *This Is Live* (Shout! Factory)

Judd Apatow's 2012 comedy *This Is 40* featured a performance by Graham Parker & the Rumour. Reunited after 31 years and fresh off the release of new studio album *Three Chords Good*, the UK sextet – some of the angry young men of the late-Seventies British New Wave – filmed more than just one scene at the Belasco Theater in Los Angeles, however. This Blu-ray/DVD combo pack contains the entire show, which, at just under 55 minutes, runs entirely too short. Once you get past this, as well as the fact that the band members haven't aged well, you can concentrate on the music and it's first-rate. Parker continues to be a magnet onstage, and old faves like "Passion Is No Ordinary Word" and "Local Girls" retain their gut punch. New song "Stop Cryin' About the Rain" catches the ear in a way it didn't on disc. A delight for fans and a worthy discovery tool for anyone interested in hard-hitting, adult rock. – *Jim Caligiuri*



Jimi Hendrix *Hear My Train a Comin'* (Experience Hendrix/Legacy)

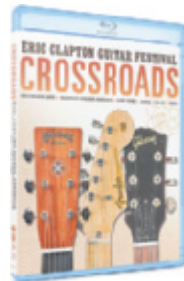
Hear My Train a Comin' isn't the first documentary on Jimi Hendrix, but it may be the best. Originally produced for PBS' acclaimed *American Masters*, the film continues that series' tradition of artistic, dignified storytelling. With creative use of graphics, including samples of Hendrix's handwritten lyrics, and on-camera interviews with key figures both professional (Eddie Kramer, Billy Cox, Chas Chandler) and personal (Linda Keith, Fayne



Pridgon, Paul McCartney), UK director Bob Smeaton (*Festival Express*) paints a colorful portrait of the superhero guitarist as a dedicated artiste. Smeaton pays scant attention to the more scandalous side of Southpaw's career, his numerous dalliances with women and drugs mentioned more in passing than as essential episodes. Instead, he concentrates on what made Hendrix famous in the first place: his music. Even better, the DVD includes footage of several Hendrix festival performances, including his final show at Germany's Love & Peace Festival. Essential for fans. – *Michael Toland*

Eric Clapton *Crossroads Guitar Festival* (Rhino)

Almost five hours from Madison Square Garden in April erases any need to have been there. The first disc begins as leisurely as "Lay Down Sally" by the host, but the murderers' row of Clapton, Austin's Jimmie Vaughan, Robert Cray, and B.B. King on "Everyday I Have the Blues" flips the switch. Doyle Bramhall II's "Cry" burns soul with Alice Smith before Gary Clark Jr. bellies up for Muddy Waters' "She's Alright" and then nearly steals the whole enchilada on the second DVD with a purple haze ("When My Train Pulls In") and searing falsetto ("Please Come Home"). That neither the latter nor "Cry" made the companion CDs is criminal. The Allmans strip down for Neil Young's "The Needle and the Damage Done," Taj Mahal and Keb' Mo' duel with National Steel guitars, Keith Richards' gives Clapton "the clap," and Slowhand's "Layla" doff "Got to Get Better in a Little While" mark *Crossroads* No. 4 as devilishly compelling. – *Raoul Hernandez*



Metallurgy

Dio *Finding the Sacred Heart: Live in Philly 1986* (Eagle Vision)

Black Sabbath *Live ... Gathered in Their Masses* (Republic)

Given Ozzy Osbourne's uneven performances fronting Black Sabbath on this year's album/tour cycle for 13, the inevitable live DVD arouses suspicion. Damned if the Melbourne-filmed *Gathered in Their Masses* doesn't find the old devil staying on key and mustering some of his ancient powers, however. This Sabbath is all about Tony Iommi anyway, and the cancer fighter finesses those doom riffs with incomparable skill and dignity, expertly meshing with loyal bass partner and lyricist Geezer Butler and drummer Tommy Clufetos. The set list boasts relevant performances of smashes ("Paranoid," "War Pigs," "Iron Man"), favorites ("Into the Void," "Behind the Wall of Sleep," "Children of the Grave"), and even new keepers ("End of the Beginning," "Loner," "Methademic"). Meanwhile, Ozzy's late successor Ronnie James Dio demonstrates why the Sabs tapped him for *Heaven & Hell*, *Mob Rules*, and more in *Finding the Sacred Heart*, his self-titled band pounding 1986 teenagers in one of its strongholds. Dio howls ferocious, melodic, and his conviction, whether belting out "Don't Talk to Strangers" or wielding a plastic lightsaber during "Sacred Heart," scans absolute. The hits-packed set list includes not just Dio staples "Holy Diver," "Last in Line," and "Stand Up and Shout," but Rainbow's "Man on the Silver Mountain" and "Long Live Rock 'n' Roll," plus Sabbath classics "Children of the Sea" and "Heaven and Hell." The Blu-ray includes a pair of interviews, backstage tomfoolery, and the video for "Rock 'n' Roll Children," while a separate, 2-CD combo soundtracks the heavy metal séance. – *Michael Toland*





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Music

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“Arcadian Rhapsody”
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FILM:
Ms. 45
Alamo Slaughter, 11pm



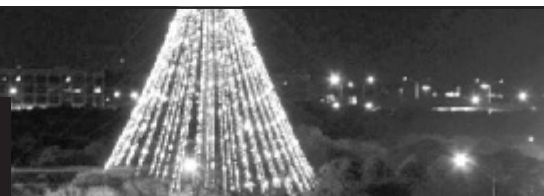
DANCE:
The Nutcracker
Long Center, 2 & 7:30pm



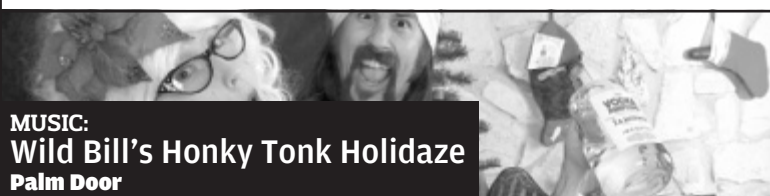
MUSIC:
Dar Williams
One World Theatre



COMMUNITY:
Trail of Lights
Zilker Park, 7-10pm



MUSIC:
Wild Bill's Honky Tonk Holidaze
Palm Door



SPORTS:
Texas Stars
Cedar Park Center, 7:30pm



FILM:
My Night at Maud's
Salvage Vanguard Theater, 8pm



THURSDAY
12

FILM: *Farm-City, State* Blanton Museum, 7pm
FILM: *The Last Bus Home* Marchesa Hall, 7:30pm
THEATRE: *Missionary Position* Salvage Vanguard Theater, 8pm
COMEDY: *Esther's Follies* Esther's Pool, 8pm

FRIDAY
13

CLASSICAL MUSIC: *Spellbound* St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 7:30pm
FILM: *Bastards* Marchesa Hall, 8pm
MUSIC: *101X Indie Workforce Xmas* Emo's
COMMUNITY: *Protos Art + Tech Labs* North Door, 9pm-2am
MUSIC: *Migos* Infest
GAY PLACE: *Poo Poo Platter: Happy Hole-idays* Elysium, 10pm

SATURDAY
14

KIDS: *Holiday Heroes* Zach Theatre, 11am
COMMUNITY: *Festival of Carols* French Legation Museum, 1-5pm
FILM: *Laurel & Hardy's Festival of Laughs* Alamo Ritz, 2:20pm
FILM: *White Reindeer* Marchesa Hall, 8pm
MUSIC: *Combichrist* Elysium
MUSIC: *My Education* Red 7

SUNDAY
15

COMMUNITY: *Google Glass Demo* Brazos House, 10am-6pm
KIDS: *Austin Children's Nutcracker* Dougherty Arts Center
MEAL TIMES: *The Cookie Takedown* Shangri-La, 2-4pm
FILM: *Pastorela* Alamo Village, 4pm
CIVICS 101: *WDP Christmas Party* Workers Defense Project, 5pm
FILM: *Meet Me in St. Louis* Paramount, 9:25pm

MONDAY
16

HOLIDAY BAZAARS: *Blue Genie* Marchesa Hall, 10am-10pm
FILM: *Citizen Kane* Alamo Ritz, 7:20pm
FILM: *Ernie Kovacs* Austin Studios, 8pm

TUESDAY
17

MUSIC: *Armadillo Christmas Bazaar* Palmer Events Center
CLASSICAL MUSIC: *Holiday Big Sing* St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 6pm
SPORTS: *WWE Raw* Frank Erwin Center, 7pm
LITERA: *Amy Tan* BookPeople, 7pm
FILM: *The Nutcracker* various theatres, 7pm
THEATRE: *Fusebox: 60 in Sixty* North Door, 8:15pm

WEDNESDAY
18

SPORTS: *Texas Stars* Cedar Park Center, 7:30pm
GAY PLACE: *AGLCC Holiday Party & Awards* Chez Zee, 6:30pm
CLASSICAL MUSIC: *Lessons & Carols From King's College* St. Louis Catholic Church, 7:30pm
THEATRE: *Sloppy Sean Behind Bars* Hyde Park Theatre, 8pm
FILM: *In the Heat of the Night* Alamo Ritz, 7:15pm
MUSIC: *The Mavericks* Gruene Hall
MUSIC: *Ringo Deathstarr, Holy Wave* Hotel Vegas

THURSDAY
19

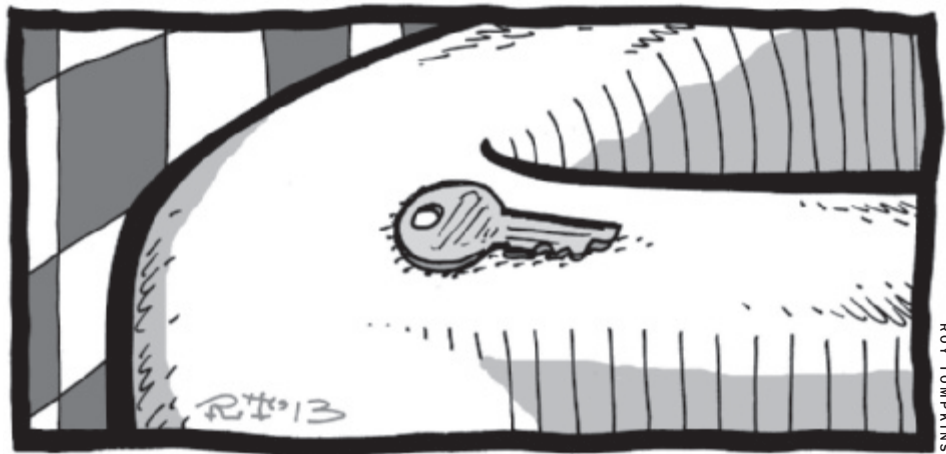
FILM: *The Headless Woman* Blanton Museum, 6pm
CIVICS 101: *Prevent Clashes With Coyotes* City Hall, 7pm
KIDS: *Holiday Hip-Hop Theatre Explosion* The Vortex, 8pm
LITERA: *Bedpost Confessions* North Door, 7:15pm
MUSIC: *Will Courtney* Mohawk

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd



A formal investigation into the strange death of British intelligence codebreaker Gareth Williams concluded in November with a police judgment that the death was an accident, despite the body's having been discovered inside a zippered and padlocked garment bag in an otherwise unused bathtub in his London apartment. An earlier inquest into the 2010 death had unsatisfactorily failed to rule out foul play, setting up the police examination, but two facts stood out, according to the officer in charge: The key to the padlock was found within easy reach of the bag, and, according to experts, even though no usable fingerprints or DNA was found in the apartment, it had not been "deep-cleaned" (as might be expected in a death with intel-op implications).

SOMETHING IN THE AIR

Is the signature smell of Texas A&M University more "Italian lemon, bergamot, and iced pineapple" (that open into "a body of vivid florals, raw nutmeg, and cinnamon") or more "bat feces" and "Chilifest stink"? The two commentaries were contrasted in a November *Wall Street Journal* report on the introduction of Masik Collegiate Fragrances' Texas A&M cologne (one of 17 Masik college clients), priced at around \$40 for a 1.7-ounce bottle. Louisiana State University's scent conjures up, insisted one grad, the campus' oak trees, but so far has pulled in only \$5,500 for the school. (To a football rival of LSU, the school's classic smell is less oak tree than "corn dog.") The apparent gold standard of fan fragrances is the New York Yankees' cologne, which earned the team nearly \$10 million in 2012.

RECURRING THEMES

Among America's most prolific "fathers" (in this case, perhaps better considered "egg-fertilizers") are Nathaniel Smith, age 39, who claimed on TV's *Divorce Court* in September that he is the father of 27, and the late Samuel Whitney, whose grown stepdaughter Lexie Woods learned that he claimed 54 before he died in July at age 87. Smith (known in Dayton, Ohio, as "Hustle Simmons") insisted that he is a fine father (doesn't smoke or drink, keeps contact with most of the kids, has "only" 21 child-support orders

out), and besides, he told WHIO-TV, "I know of people who have even more than me." (Among Whitney's belongings, said Woods, were a "pile" of birth certificates and a stash of maximum-strength Viagra. "He was a likable man, a ladies' man.")

Latest Collateral Damage: 1) In October, a 28-year-old man, reeling from a domestic argument in Port Richey, Fla., put a gun to his head and, against his girlfriend's pleas, fired. As a neighbor across the street stood on her porch, the suicide bullet left the victim's head and made three wounds on the neighbor's leg, sending her to the hospital. 2) About a week later, on the Norwegian island of Vesteroy, a moose hunter missed his target but hit an obscured cottage in the distance, wounding a man in his 70s as he answered nature's call. He was airlifted to Ullevaal University Hospital in Oslo.

In November, barely two weeks after a small plane carrying 10 skydivers left no survivors when it crashed on the way to an exhibition near Brussels, Belgium, nine skydivers were able to dive for safety when two planes headed for a tandem jump collided near Superior, Wis. News stories did not address how experienced skydivers escaped one plane but not the other.

Animal Sacrifice – in America: In September, Orthodox Jewish communities once again staged traditional *kapparot*, in which chickens are killed in a prescribed way for the purpose of "transferring" a believer's latest sins over to the chicken (whose death banishes the sins). (In many such ceremonies, the chickens are

donated for food, but protesters in Los Angeles criticized rogue practitioners who simply tossed carcasses into the trash.) In November, Miami-Dade County Animal Services found a severely injured chicken with a family's 4-by-6 photograph protruding from its chest, having been haphazardly "implanted," along with a note containing several handwritten names, apparently a casualty of local Santeria services.

Some Americans still believe that stock market sales are typically made human-to-human, but the vast majority of buys and sells now are made automatically by computers, running pattern-detecting programs designed to execute millions of trades, in some cases, less than one second before rival computer programs attempt the same trades. In September, a Federal Reserve Board crisis involved, at most, seven milliseconds' time. The Fed releases market-crucial news typically at exactly 2pm, Washington, D.C., time, tightly controlled, transmitted by designated news agents via fiber optic cable. On Sept. 18, somehow, traders in Chicago reportedly beat traders elsewhere to deal an estimated \$600 million worth of assets – when theoretically, access to the Fed's news should have been random. (In other words, the drive to shave milliseconds off the "speed of light" has become quite profitable.)

Toilets are always a favorite protest symbol, most recently employed by David Labbe, disputing a zoning decision by officials in Augusta, Maine, preventing the sale of his house to Dunkin' Donuts (for, he said, three times what he paid), and he has begun lining his property with discarded toilets. Augusta native Labbe says he has given up on his city and his neighbors (who fear traffic problems if a Dunkin' Donuts opens). (On the same day, coincidentally, toilets made news in Los Angeles, where YoYo Li was about to open the city's first toilet-themed restaurant, patterned after several in Taiwan in which diners squat at tables and eat off commode-shaped serving vessels.)

In November, Michael Brown, 19, became the most recent person with poor decision-making skills forced to report to a police station (this, in College Station, Texas) in the middle of the night to ask that officers please remove the handcuffs he had been playing around with. (Following the officers' mandatory records check, it was learned that Brown had an arrest warrant for criminal mischief, and following a mandatory search, that he also had two ounces of marijuana in his pocket.)

Can't Possibly Be True: Twice again, in November, men wrongfully convicted of major, chilling crimes, who were finally freed after serving long sentences, claimed upon release that they were – somehow – not bitter. Ryan Ferguson was released in Missouri after serving almost 10 years for a murder he surely knew nothing about (convicted because a prosecutor withheld exculpatory evidence). Derrick Deacon was freed in New York after nearly 25 years – served because the eyewitness (who finally recanted) had identified Deacon out of fear of retaliation by the Jamaican gang member she actually saw.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at
www.news-of-the-weird.blogspot.com
(or www.news-of-the-weird.com).

Send your weird news to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.
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THEATRE

OPENING

♣ **MISSIONARY POSITION: PLEASURE JOURNEYS FOR THE INTREPID LADY EXPLORER** A collaboration between Glass Half Full's amazing **Caroline Reck** and that golden-throated banshee of weird brilliance named **Cami Alys**? Hell, we don't even need to know that "renowned Victorian lady scientist Amelia Wetherbeaten and intrepid lady explorer Eleanor Dangerbottom have traveled to the nether creases of the Earth and run their voluminous skirt hems over the dusty bottoms of creation to present you with their collection of human (and inhuman) travel curios." (But: Whoa.) And **Jay Byrd** and **Noel Gaulin** are abetting the ladies' scientifico-bawdy endeavors? Bonus! And **Connor Hopkins** is doing some of the puppetry here? Bonus! *Oh! All my tubes and wires! And careful notes!* Such as: **RECOMMENDED.** *Thu.-Sat., Dec. 12-14, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. \$10-20. www.glasshalffulltheatre.com.*

LIGHTS. SOUND. (ACTION) What kind of last-minute tech nightmares happen before the lights come up – if they come up – on a show? What sort of catastrophes occur behind the scrim? Come experience them *here* as **Lucky Chaos** gives you a glimpse behind the curtains with this show of improvised *meta-theatre*. *Fri., Dec. 13, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. \$10. www.luckychaos.com.*

♣ **FUSEBOX FESTIVAL PRESENTS: 60 IN SIXTY** Austin's rowdiest night of performance features actors, musicians, dancers, painters, thinkers, and personalities in wild, original, unpredictable performances of *only sixty seconds each*. With **Doug Strahan & the Good Neighbors** bringing their best to



abet this crowd-pleasing fundraiser from those ever-busy fomentors of Fusebox. Recommended and a half! *Tue., Dec. 17, 8pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy, 512/485-3002. \$15. www.ndvenue.com.*

♣ **SLOPPY SEAN BEHIND BARS: A LONELY HIGHWAY CHRISTMAS** Clear that dead reindeer off the Lonely Highway, friends and neighbors, as everybody's favorite affable-and-yet-fucking-scary-snaggle-toothed-hillbilly is granted a reprieve from his relentless cage-fighting schedule by Mephistopheles and returns

to pervert the Hyde Park stage for **one night only** in this ... uh ... this *Christmas special* unlike any other. *Wed., Dec. 18, 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 512/479-7529. \$16. www.hydeparktheatre.org.*

CLOSING

FLORENCE Gale Theatre Company and **Bottle Alley Theatre Company** use dance, video, and physical theatre to tell "the story of Florence Lawrence, America's 'First Movie Star'" in this site-specific presentation. Directed by **Katherine Wilkinson**, choreographed by **Celina Chapin**. *Through Dec. 15. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. Sparky Park Substation, 3701 Grooms, 610/574-9052. \$10-25.*

MEMPHIS Broadway in Austin presents this winner of **four 2010 Tony Awards** (including Best Musical), about "a radio DJ who wants to change the world and a club singer who is ready for her big break." *Through Dec. 15. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 1 & 7pm. Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman Dr., UT campus, 512/477-6060. \$25 and up. www.broadwayinaustin.com.*

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE This show has nothing to do with the late Gertrude Yorkes or her Deinonychus, except that it's – of course – where that pair got their battle names. This is **Joseph Kesselring's** macabre comedy in which drama critic Mortimer Brewster, intent on marriage, must deal with his crazy, homicidal family – among them, two spinster aunts who've been killing old men. Directed by **Norman Blumensaadt** for **Different Stages**. Bonus: **Jennifer Underwood** and **Karen Jambon** star as the murderous Brewster sisters. *Through Dec. 14. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$15-30. www.main.org/diffstages.*

ONGOING

WE WERE NOTHING! Staying in touch via social media? What happens when relationships never have to have an expiration date? This play by **Will Arbery**, created in collaboration with Lisa Szolovits, Shelley Fort, Elly Smokler, and Emilie Soffe for **Poison Apple Initiative** may answer those questions in ways that will surprise you. Directed by **Bastion Carboni**. *Through Dec. 21. Wed.-Sat., 8pm. Monstrosity Studio, 2514 Wilson. \$15-25. www.poisonappleinitiative.com.*

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE A classic **Agatha Christie** murder mystery takes the stage to the heights of sleuthing and terror. See: Ten strangers,

the magical realm of the taking off of one's clothes. *Sat., Dec. 14, 6:30pm. Brass Ovaries, 3111 Manor Rd., 512/477-7653. \$25. www.facebook.com/tinitime.*

MIDNIGHT MENAGERIE For your pleasure, Fat Bottom Cabaret presents: Jasper St. James, Chola Magnolia, Shi Feticcio, Vita Velour, Alexandra Kayke, Lola LeStrange, Messere L'Obscurité, and more, more, more. How do you like it? *Sat., Dec. 14, 7:30pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy. \$15. www.fatbottomcabaret.com.*

AZZ4XMAS Katey Red on the outside, and Stone Cold Snugglas in. *Sat, Dec. 14, 9pm. Cheer Up Charlies, 1104 E. Sixth.*

LONE STAR BEARS CHRISTMAS

PARTY You think with that gut that Santa's gonna miss this bear-down? Heck no. That hairy old elf will be there. *Sat., Dec. 14, 9pm. The Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth.*

MAGICAL REALNESS This "Effervescent Crystal Ball and Drag Invitational" is brought to you by the letter Q. Q Austin, honey. (And the letters C for Coco Coquette, P for Poo Poo Platter, and another C for Casa de la Roncha.) And H for Hmmmmmmmmmm. *Sat., Dec. 14, 9pm. Empire Control Room, 606 E. Seventh. \$7-10. www.facebook.com/theaustin.*

TRANS FAMILY POTLUCK & TGQ SOCIAL We're up all day to get potlucky at OutYouth then will haul it on over for the QTs at the TGQ Social at Spider House. Done & done. *Sun., Dec. 15, 2-9pm. Out Youth, 909 E. 49th 1/2, 2-4pm, then Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 5-9pm. www.outyouth.org.*

PINK CHRISTMAS The Austin Babbist Women tie you up in a bow. Breast Cancer Resource Center benefits. *Sun., Dec. 15, 7pm. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. www.bouttime2.com.*

each with a dark secret, are summoned to the island mansion of an eccentric millionaire, but when the guests arrive their host is nowhere to be found ... and the guests are being killed one by one. A terrific cast is directed by **Lara Toner** for **Austin Playhouse**, and you know somebody is gonna get out alive ... right? *Through Dec. 22. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse at Highland Mall, 6001 Airport, 512/476-0084. \$28-35 (half-price, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

STEEL MAGNOLIAS Robert Harling's Southern-fried hit comedy is directed by **Andy Berkovsky** for **City Theatre**. *Through Dec. 22. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 512/524-2870. \$15-25 (\$10, Thursdays). www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

THE NORTH PLAN See review, p.40. *Through Dec. 21. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 512/479-7529. \$20 (\$15, students, teachers). www.streetcornerarts.org.*

ELF EMPLOYMENT Puppets? Yes, *but not the darkling denizens of Trouble Puppet*. This is the family-friendly **Puppet Improv Project**, presenting "a colorful cast of mischievous imps and woodland creatures who brighten the stage with a musical and interactive situation comedy – based on suggestions from the audience about the life of elves in Santa's Workshop." Bring the kids! *Through Dec. 22. Sat.-Sun., 6pm. Institution Theater, 3708 Woodbury, 512/895-9580. \$7. www.theinstitutiontheater.com.*

A CHRISTMAS STORY See review, p.40. *Through Dec. 29. Tue.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. (Note: no show on Dec. 24; see website for more information.) Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 512/476-0541. \$18-65. www.zachtheatre.org.*

THIS WONDERFUL LIFE Richard Robichaux directs this **Steve Murray** one-man adaptation of the beloved Capra film *It's a Wonderful Life*, which sounds like a pretty decent holiday treat, y'know? Like, why the hell not? But then you learn that **Martin Burke** will be playing *all 37 characters from the movie* himself – and you realize it's more like an **OMG-don't-miss-this-show** situation at Zach Scott this holiday season. *Through Dec. 29. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. (See website for more information.) Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 512/476-0541. \$18-65. www.zachtheatre.org.*



HO-LIDAZE Family-time can mean joy, or it can mean stress. Let that rainbow love flow, cuz who knows what our chosen fam/LGBTQthers are going through this season.

ON OUR GAYDAR

STEEL MAGNOLIAS Count on lots of "laughter through tears" and way more than "30 minutes of wonder-ful" at Austin's take on a Southern classic. *Dec. 12-22, Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sundays, 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 512/524-2870. \$10-25. www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

HAPPY HOUR WITH MS. WRIGHT Ms. Wright on the black & whites kicks off your weekend. *Thursdays and Fridays, 6-8pm. The Skylark Lounge, 2039 Airport. Free.*

PFLAG SOUTH MONTHLY MEETING Family is nice; allied family is love. *Second Thursdays, 6:30-9pm. Faith Presbyterian Church, 1314 E. Oltorf. Free.*

PATRICE PIKE Take a hike, and see the Pike. *Thursdays, 8-10pm. Saxon Pub, 1320 S. Lamar. www.facebook.com/PatricePikeBand.*

MR. COOK'S STRIP-OFF We think Bobby stays clothed. Sorry. *Thursdays, 12mid. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth.*

BXBXB (FUN)DRAISER 100% of sales go to Bikes Across Borders. Holiday shopping! Fine tunes! And free beer! *Fri., Dec. 13, 7-9pm. Treasure City Thrift, 2142 E. Seventh, 512/524-2820. www.facebook.com/BikesAcrossBorders.*

POO POO PLATTER: HAPPY HOLE-IDAYS Aw, the Poops wrote a poem: *Spread those cheeks and spread the cheer! Poo Poo Platter celebrates the holidays so queer! Don we now our gay apparel, and attend a drag show muy feral. Feral! Fri., Dec. 13, 10pm-2am. Elysium, 705 Red River. \$5. www.facebook.com/poopooATX.*

BIG GAY BRUNCH Enjoy DJ Deftone on the upper deck and a full brunch buffet with \$1 mimosas made from freshly squeezed nalgas ... We mean *naranjas*. *Sat., Dec. 14, 11am-3pm. 219 West, 612 W. Sixth. www.facebook.com/abcdevents.*

CHANDRA WASHINGTON: NO MISTAKE Book signing and reading from *No Mistake: Journey to Self-Acceptance* by Renaissance woman and Sun Ra dancer/support vocalist. (WHAT?! Have you ever seen a uni-pony faint?) *Sat., Dec. 14, 2-4pm. Resistencia Bookstore, 1801-A S. First. Free. www.resistenciabooks.com.*

BURLESQUE STORYTELLING WORKSHOP Queertini Time takes you through motivation and intention in



FREE BURGERS Free food. *Sundays, 4-6pm. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. Free.*

SWITCH NIGHT The crew at OCH drags it up and dons some seriously gay apparel to benefit Pink Santa, which helps local homeless kids. *Sun., Dec. 15, 10pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth.*

FREE BUFFET Yummy free grub to soak up those drink specials all week long. *Mon.-Fri., 5-7pm. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. Free.*

LISTEN TO OUTCAST! Stephen Rice and Chase Martin give you reason to tweak your knobs to 91.7FM. KOOP = queer, yo! *Tuesdays, 6-7pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org, www.outcastaustin.com.*

AGLCC HOLIDAY PARTY & AWARDS Who will win the coveted "They're Givin' It Away," and "Social Media Diva" awards? *Wed., Dec. 18, 6:30-9pm. Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones, 512/454-2666. \$60-225. www.aglcc.org/calendar/holiday-party-2013.*

QUEER RIDE Search Facebook for up-to-date details this weekly ride. *Wednesdays, 7pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside. Free. www.facebook.com/AustinTPH.*

NATIONAL KARAOKE LEAGUE Sing it, sang it, and swang it! *Wednesdays, 8-10pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth. Free.*

HO-LIDAY GIVING

BLUE CHRISTMAS APD & BTII will have a bluuuuuuue Christmas with or without you, but geez, it would be so much nicer with you. Bring a toy! A nice one, not a naughty one (and certainly not a used one) as these are for kids. And we don't mean twinks, daddy. *Toy donation through Dec. 14. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. www.facebook.com/BoutTimell.*

Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com. See the full array of **Gay Place** listings at austinchronicle.com/gay.

COMEDY

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 512/467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Godfrey Do you know this man from *Louie*? You could know him even better from seeing his stand-up on the Cap City stage this weekend. Bonus: **James Hesky** opens. Dec. 12-14. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.* \$9-15.

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 512/814-8696. www.coldtownetheater.com.

This Week in Coldness: They're right there on Airport Boulevard where the spraypaint taggers, it appears, have no fucking class – and the nearby In-N-Out Burger's threatening to open soon, so isn't it high time you visited Coldtowne again? Check 'em out: **The Hustle Show** is produced by **Stag Comedy** honchos and boasts a cast of comedy brilliants, so how can you go wrong? *Thu., 10pm.* \$5. **Movie vs. Movie** *Fri., 7pm.* \$4. **Bad Boys**, featuring improv by boys who are, well, somewhat rude. *Fri., 8:30pm.* \$5. **Live at ColdTowne** is stand-up comedy. *Fri., 10pm.* \$5. **Slay Bells** Sketch troupe **Lasagna** makes with their live version of the boardgame **Clue**. *Sat., 8:30pm.* \$7. **The Frank Mills** and their smart, character-driven improv, run rampant with **Midnight Society**. *Sat., 10pm.* \$7. **Nice Astronaut** presents Improvokie. *Sat., 11pm.* \$5. And don't forget the rest o' the week: stand-up with the **Jam** (with **Oh, Science!** on Sundays, **Maggie Maye's** stand-up mic on Mondays, the **Tuesday Night Jam**, improv antics with **Miller and Purselly** and **Cagematch** on Wednesdays.)

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 512/320-0553. www.esthersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies Musical comedy skits, magic, and a political satirical revue with the bustling backdrop of Sixth Street on view through the stagefront window! And now the gang's **Trottin' With the Turkeys** in a revue that features **"The Baracky Horror Picture Show!"** and the F1-trolling **"Gridlocked: The Musical,"** and that's only two of the night's many rollicking musical send-ups. Bonus: the large-scale illusions and arch antics of magician **Ray Anderson**. Reservations recommend. *ed. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm.* \$24-29.

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 512/476-0473. www.hideouttheatre.com.

It's Hideoutrageous! Here's your one-stop Downtown emporium of laughter, art, and sweet coffee drinks (and now: wine cocktails), run like a brilliant clockwork made from Del Close's skull. **The Threer** Three improv troupes in one show. *Thu., 8pm.* \$5. **The Free Fringe** Experiments in improv. Gone wrong? Gone right? Gone free! *Thu., 10pm.* **The Big Bash: All-Star Holiday Show** Yes! The best improvisers in town will jingle your bells and warm your cockles and make you laugh like Santa intend-ed you to. *Fri., 8pm.* \$15. **Pick Your Own Path** Or, ah, choose your own adven – oh, you know. *Fri., 8:30pm.* \$5. **The Spectacle** presents the Crabbies-fueled house troupe **Parallelogramophonograph** and **Ophelia's Rope**. *Fri., 10pm.* \$10. **A Bedtime Gorey** Improv in the style of ... yes ... **Edward Gorey!** *Sat., 8pm.* \$12. **Maestro** A whole stage-full of wild imps, battling for victory. *Always recommended, especially if it's your first time seeing live improv.* *Sat., 10pm.* \$12. **Another Weekender** brings a student showcase and **Phil**. *Sun., 8pm.* \$5.

INSTITUTION THEATER 3708 Woodbury, 512/895-9580. www.theinstitutiontheater.com.

It's Institutional! The Ponzi Scream Three improv troupes, featuring headliner **Indigo Shift**. *Thu., Dec. 12, 8pm.* \$5. **Fuck, It's Christmas** What's Christmas like in the ATX? What's it like when Institution sketch comedians get a hold of it and turn it inside out in odd and possibly perverse ways? OMG, is it even *legal* to do this shit with grackles? *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 13-21, 8pm.* \$12. **Not So Silent Night** Ah! A showcase of holiday stand-up comics, hosted by **Regina Soto**. *Fri., Dec. 13, 10pm.* \$5. **Triple Scoop** Two improv troupes and stand-up comedian **Marv Pratt**. *Sat., Dec. 14, 10pm.* \$5. **The Velvet Rut** What *Portlandia* does for that Northwest city, so this show does for Austin. Definitely a *local* show for *local* people. *Mon., Dec. 16, 8pm.* \$6.

NEW MOVEMENT THEATER 616 Lavaca, 512/788-2669. www.newmovementtheater.com.

It's Subterranean! It's that space Downtown – an *underground* space, literally, and swarming with improvisers and sketch comics – right there on the corner of Seventh and Lavaca. And this is what's up next: **Student Union** *Thu., 7:30pm.* \$5. **Lights Up!** with We Have Jetpacks, LVL 2, and So Many Dicks. *Thu., 8:30pm.* \$5. **Block Party** Open-mic mayhem. *Thu., 9:30pm.* Free. **TNM Winter Formal** Prom-com!

Fri., 9 & 10:30pm. \$5. **Waterpark Xmas** *Sat., 9pm.* \$5. **The Megaphone Show** True stories told, and then mercilessly fucked with. *Sat., 10:30pm.* \$5. **Austin Pets Alive Fundraiser** Raise money for animals while also laughing! What sort of hideous fiend would do otherwise? *Sun., 8pm.* \$10.

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 512/469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Two Friday Shows **Lucas Molandes** presents this Friday-night double-shot of laughter each week, curating two shows of the best stand-up comics around. **The Early Show** 9:30pm. \$5. **The Late Show** 11:30pm. \$5.

Brian Gaar Oh god, it's Gaar. No, no – that's a *good* thing. Totally. It's just that, ah, we pimp this hilarious fucker so fiercely and so often that people are starting to talk. And now here he is, headlining the Velv with his video game-riddled onslaught of laughs. Here he is, so soon after recording his new comedy album at Cap City. Here he is, cracking your ass up in a show hosted by **Kerri Lendo**, and **we can't recommend any stand-up show in town more highly this weekend.** And so now people are, like, they're *sob* they're talking again – and it *burns*, oh how it burrrrrrrs! *Sat., Dec. 14, 9:30 & 11:30pm.* \$10.

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

A STAND-UP MIND: HOLIDAY EDITION **Lucky Chaos Theater** presents this night of stand-up comedy about mental health, featuring **Jay Whitecotton**, **Katie Pengra**, **Jacques Ntonme**, **Chris Sebillia**, **Joe Hafkey**, **Mitch Mekulsia**, and **John Rabon**. *Sat., Dec. 14, 8pm.* **Salvage Vanguard Theater**, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. \$8. www.luckychaos.com.

DANCE

LOOKING FOR DANCE CLASSES? Swing? Ballet? Tango? Hip-hop? Pole-dancing? We've got a myriad of classes listed online, all manner of schools waiting to get your feet firmly on the floor to joyful moves.

KOMO DANCEWORKS: WINTER SOLSTICE FUNDRAISER This wine-and-cheese *soirée* punctuates the festive mixing and mingling with excerpts of original dance and music that will be performed in next year's Frontera Fest. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 13-14, 8pm.* 1700 Ashby. \$30 (\$20, students/seniors). www.alexandermovingarts.com.

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER This year, Ballet Austin's Artistic Director **Stephen Mills** brings you the beloved tale and his acclaimed choreography enhanced by the world premiere of **spectacular new sets and costume designs**. *Dec. 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 7:30pm; Dec. 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 2pm.* Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/476-2163. \$15-78. www.balletaustin.org.

AIRE In addition to Austin's own **Genevieve Guinn** and company, the Aire ensemble will include: **Edwin Aparicio** (founder and director of the Flamenco Aparicio Dance Company), **Richard Marlow** (master flamenco guitarist), **Francisco "Yiyi" Orozco** (cante and percussion), and **Hector Jose Marquez** (cante flamenco talent). *Fri., Dec. 13, 7:30pm.* Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th, 512/809-7799. \$20. www.pinkflamencodance.com.

OF MICE AND MUSIC: TAPESTRY'S JAZZ NUTCRACKER Here's the annual and critically acclaimed jazzy tap-dance take on Tchaikovsky's classic, with live music by **Blue J** and the best of **Tapestry Dance Company's** professionals unleashing their fanciest footwork. *Dec. 13-14. Fri., 7pm; Sat., 2 & 7pm.* Stateside at the Paramount, 719 Congress, 512/472-5470. www.austinthetheatre.org.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

CONSPIRARE YOUTH CHOIRS: SPELLBOUND Seasonal music by John Rutter and Eleanor Daley, traditional holiday songs, and more. Featured works are *Choral Hymns From the Rig Veda* by Gustav Holst, set to ancient Hindu texts of prayer and praise, and *The Dorothy Poems* by Conspirare's Craig Hella Johnson. Directed by Nina Revering. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 13-14, 7:30pm.* St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 512/474-5664. \$12 (\$6, ages 6-17; free, ages 5 and younger). www.conspirare.org.

CHORUS AUSTIN: ON A WINTER'S EVE Traditional carols, seasonal songs, works including Daniel Pinkham's *Christmas Cantata*, and audience sing-alongs, performed by chorus, orchestra, and soloists, directed by Ryan Heller. *Fri., Dec. 13, 7pm.* St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa, 512/719-3300. \$15-20. www.chorusaustin.org.

TEMP: JOYOUS NOËL The Texas Early Music Project presents a wonderful program of carols, motets, dances, and traditional songs with innovative arrangements for solo voices, small chorus, harp,

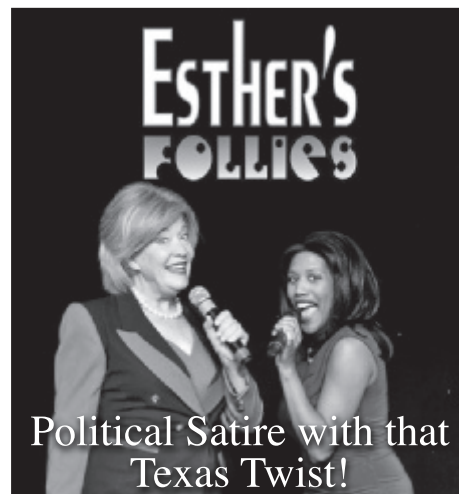
LISTINGS

violin, flute, mandolin, viols, and lutes, performing selections from Italy, Spain, France, the Netherlands, the British Isles, and other countries. *Dec. 12-14. Fri., 8pm; First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa. Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm; First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis.* 512/377-6961. \$5-25. www.early-music.org.

TEXAS CHORAL CONSORT: THE SOUNDING JOY Traditional and less familiar holiday music, featuring the premiere of *Gocémonos, Amado* by Austin composer **Russell Reed**. *Sat., Dec. 14, 7:30pm.* Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center Dr., 512/900-8715. \$20 (\$15, students; free, ages 10 and younger). www.txconsort.org.

ENSEMBLE VIII: LESSONS AND CAROLS FROM KING'S Yes, the apostrophe is appropriate. Because this program was first introduced at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England, in 1918. So here come nine readings from the Bible, with carols sung between the lessons, presented with all the glory for which this early-music ensemble – directed by James Morrow – is rightly acclaimed. *Tue.-Wed., Dec. 17-18, 7:30pm.* St. Louis Catholic Church, 7601 Burnet Rd., 512/454-0384. \$35-45 (\$10, students). www.ensembleviii.org.

CONSPIRARE'S HOLIDAY BIG SING For the second year, Conspirare presents a holiday version of the "Big Sing," its popular event "where the audience is the choir." Participants at this free gathering will sing music of the season, directed by **Craig Hella Johnson**. *Tue., Dec. 17, 6pm.* St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 512/476-6757. Free. www.conspirare.org.



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Registration is closed and support is closed for the Chorus Austin through the December 13th deadline. Registration is closed for the Chorus Austin through the December 13th deadline. Registration is closed for the Chorus Austin through the December 13th deadline.

VISUAL ARTS

EVENTS

THE PEOPLE’S GALLERY: ART AFTER SIX Featured artists **Lisa Eisenbrey, Alyssa Taylor Wendt,** and **Suzanne Koett** discuss their works displayed in the 2013 exhibition. *Fri., Dec. 13, 6-8pm. 301 W. Second, 512/974-7700. [www.austintexas.gov](#).*

CRUSH CALENDAR RELEASE PARTY **De Mis Ojos Photography** presents its documentary-style calendar, featuring Austin’s own urban, female cyclists photographed around the city. Bonus: live hip-hop performances by Fonk Duplex, featuring the Fly & Rooster and the Digital Wild. *Thu., Dec. 12, 9pm-2am. 617 E. Seventh, 512/391-1943. [www.holymountainaustin.com](#).*

MONOFONUS BLOWOUT AT MASS GALLERY Of course you already know what a bad-ass collective of artists and musicians are creating books and records and magazines and, Jesus, *so much stuff* via **Monofonus Press**. Even better to know that the good folks there are throwing a holiday blowout sale in Mass Gallery, over there in the never-sleepy 507 Calles compound. Now hie yourself hence – that’s a real phrase, right? something Shakespeare’s crowd might’ve brayed? – before all the good cheap gifts and hot buttered rum is gone! *Sun., Dec. 15, noon-5pm. 916 Springdale. [www.monofonuspress.com](#).*

THE VORTEX: WINE & CHEESE & SALVADOR DALI It’s a creative salon right there in the stark finery of the Butterfly Bar. Join your fellow Daliphiles for a night of discussions of the man and his work. Bring your favorite reproductions (don’t tell us you have an original!) for a little show & tell while enjoying the wine and cheese. Note: The Vortex is exploring Dali’s work as research for a major theatrical work in 2015, and *this* will help. *Mon., Dec. 16, 7-9pm. 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. [www.vortexrep.org](#).*

OPENING

ART.SCIENCE.GALLERY: TRADING CARDS EXHIBITION Here’s a showcase of **original science-related trading cards**, presented by the folks who brought us that buggy “Ecllosion” exhibition during EAST, featuring cards created by artists from across the city, across the state, and across the country. [Note: The gallery’s still in the Canopy compound, but now it’s moved right next door to Big Medium.] Reception: *Fri., Dec. 13, 7-11pm. Exhibition: through Jan. 30. 916 Springdale, Building 2, #102. [www.art.science.gallery.com](#).*

LINK & PIN GALLERY: ARTFUL HOLIDAY Works by **Clara Newby, Kharon Clark, Kathi Herrin, William Stidham, Kay Hughes,** and more. Reception: *Sat., Dec. 14, 3-7pm. 2235 E. Sixth #102, 512/484-8016. [www.linkpinart.com](#).*

ONGOING

02 NORTH GALLERY: WE INVENTED LOVE SOMEHOW AND WITHOUT MERCY OR INSTRUCTION Never mind the music, friend: What **Bob Schneider** does with visual arts is at least equally compelling, and this is a show of the man’s newest mixed-media work. Recommended. *Through Jan. 4. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. [www.flatbedpress.com](#).*

ARTWORKS GALLERY New space, new art, and a new opening attended by artists Su Allen, Lisa Chandler, Enid Wood, Linda Wilde, and others; featuring Luca Vidal glass imported from Murano, Italy. *1214 W. Sixth #105, 512/472-1550. [www.artworksaustin.com](#).*

AUSTIN ART SPACE: 12BUY12 Good and square and not too expensive: Annual holiday show, featuring works by members of the **Austin Visual Arts Association**. *Through Jan. 11. Fri-Sat., 11am-6pm. 7739 Northcross Ste. Q, 512/970-1700. [www.austinartspace.com](#).*

BIG MEDIUM: ENJOY YOUR LIFE This is a new exhibition of paper-cut art by Half Japanese’s **Jad Fair**. *Through Jan. 4. 5305 Bolm. [www.bigmedium.org](#).*

CO-LAB: 1000 YEARS FROM NOW, NOW, NOW, NOW, NOW **Claude van Lingen**’s paintings, drawings, and mixed-media constructions of the linear concepts of space and time and the layering of the physical, conscious, and subconscious experiences we might have as individuals or as a global collective. *Through Jan. 4. Wednesdays, 5:30-8pm, and by appointment. N Space, 905 Congress. [www.co-labprojects.org](#).*

COMMON HOUSE: COWBOYS & INDIANS & INDIANS Here’s a new body of work from Austin artist **William Gaynor**, featuring paintings on paper and reclaimed book covers that visualize his travels through India and Texas. *906 E. 49th. [www.common-house.com](#).*

IMAGINE ART: THIS ABILITY New show from the East Austin center for artists with disabilities. *2830 Real. 512/448-1840. [www.imagineart.net](#).*



WOMEN & THEIR WORK: ARCADIAN RHAPSODY Multimedia artist **Yuliya Lanina**’s surreal imagery elicits uneasiness and empathy via bizarre characters that come to life through mechanization, animation, and music. Reception: *Thu., Dec. 12, 6-8pm. Exhibition: through Feb. 6. 1710 Lavaca, 512/477-1064. [www.womenandtheirwork.org](#).*

DAVIS GALLERY: HOLIDAY SHOW Reckon we’ve trumpeted the goodness of the Davis venue so often in these pages that you *know* this show’s gonna be a knockout. The best of the best from the gallery’s regulars – **David Leonard, Caprice Pierucci, Randall Reid, Susu Meyer, Sam Yeates, Faustinus Deraet,** and more – decking the walls with examples of human-made beauty both intricate and simple. *Through Jan. 4. 837 W. 12th, 512/477-4929. [www.davisgalleryaustin.com](#).*

FLATBED PRESS: SUITE SYMPHONY Witness here the bold color and patterns of **Anne Conner**’s woodcuts, with selections from her Brentwood, Park, and Fleetwood suites of prints. *Through Jan. 4. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. [www.flatbedpress.com](#).*

GALLERY BLACK LAGOON: SUBLIME PARADISE Artists **Rich Brouillet, Kelvin Brown, E.S. Olsen, Robbie Ortiz, Richard Sober** are featured in this new show. *Through Jan. 12. 4301-A Guadalupe, 512/371-8838. [www.galleryblacklagoon.com](#).*

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: SEND OFF After three and a half years in South Austin, the grayDUCK folks are **closing the door on their beloved gallery space** for a move to the Eastside. This final show in the venue *across the street from Elizabeth Street Cafe* features a collaboration with master printmaker **Satch Grimley**, presenting original, small-batch prints by **Allen Brewer, Sabra Booth, Adrian Landon Brooks, Jeannie Crowsby, Jennifer Davis, Jenna Foster, Katy Horan,** and more. *Through Dec. 22. 608-C W. Monroe, 512/826-5334. [www.grayduckgallery.com](#).*

LA PEÑA: RBJ ARTISTS’ COLLECTIVE Works in works in carving, watercolor, intarsia, photography, jewelry, and acrylics, featuring artists and craftsmen from the Rebekah B. Johnson Residential Tower. *227 Congress #300, 512/236-0610. [www.lapena-austin.org](#).*

LAGUNA GLORIA: FURTHEST WEST Artist **Erin Curtis** marries her interests in traditional craft and textiles, gendered labor, and modernist architecture and furniture, to create a colorful, painterly installation for this elegant venue-in-the-woods of The Contemporary Austin. *Through Jan. 5. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th. Through Jan. 5. 512/458-8191. \$5 (free, Tuesdays). [www.thecontemporaryaustin.org](#).*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: PERSONAL, POLITICAL, MYSTERIOUS Art doesn’t get much more impressive than this – namely, craftwise, and meaningfulnesswise. Here’s a show of painting, sculpture, drawing, and photography – from **Robert Gober, Louise Bourgeois, Nancy Grossman,** and others of equally regarded ilk. Here’s an exhibition in the elegant Downtown gallery that’ll remind you why you like living in this city. Recommended. *Through Jan. 11. 360 Nueces #50, 512/215-4965. [www.lorareynolds.com](#).*

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: MIX ‘N’ MASH Here are dozens of original works donated by local, national, and international artists. Many styles, many mediums, many marvels. *Through Jan. 5. 419 Congress, 512/480-9373. \$10. [www.mexic-artemuseum.org](#).*

MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA The curators of Austin’s charming MNAE offer outdoor tours of selections from the “impermanent collection” and Ephemera Gardens. Bonus: You can taste things from the garden! *Saturday, 10am-1pm. 1808 Singleton, 512/320-0566. [www.mnae.org](#).*

PRIZER: FARMER AS ARTIST Eighteen local farmers, including **Carol Ann Sayle** of Boggy Creek,

Brenton Johnson of Johnson’s Backyard Garden, and **Max Elliott** of Urban Roots exhibit works of art in a show examining the link between creativity and farming. *2023 E. Cesar Chavez.*

PRO-JEX GALLERY: BEAD, BOOK, AND BODY This tripartite show features the beaded jewelry of **Beth McElhane**y, a book signing of **Natalie Flowers’** new book *I Heard What You Weren’t Saying*, and photos chosen by **Neil Coleman** representing the human body. *Through Dec. 29. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 512/203-2009.*

PUMP PROJECT: MUTATIONS OF PROGRESS **Maria Hansen** uses watercolors in exploring the aftermath of collapse – from industrial, socio-economical, natural, and personal disasters. *Through Dec. 21. Wed. & Sat., noon-5pm. 702 Shady. [www.pumpproject.org](#).*

SLUGFEST GALLERY: JILL THRASHER Here’s a fine display of the acclaimed artist’s fresh and immediate prints – produced during life-drawing sessions, **within the duration of each model’s pose**. Figurative beauty, impeccably captured and printed; so, of course, recommended. *Through Dec. 29. Saturdays, 2-6pm. 1906 Miriam, 512/477-07204. [www.slugfestprints.com](#).*

SOUTHPOP: THE AUSTIN-SAN FRANCISCO CONNECTION Holy cross-pollination, Sixties-era Batman! Make a bee-line to this visually amplified tale of two cities and the art they together and separately wrought. *Through Jan. 4. 1516-B S. Lamar, 512/440-8318. [www.southaustincenter.org](#).*

THE BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART Three main exhibitions are on display for your viewing pleasure at UT’s gorgeous Blanton right there on MLK. **Cubism Beyond Borders** *Through Dec. 8. Imperial Augsburg: Renaissance Prints and Drawings, 1475-1540* *Through Jan. 5. The Nearest Air: A Survey of Works by Waltercio Caldas* *Through Jan. 12. 200 E. Martin Luther King Jr., 512/471-7324. [www.blantonmuseum.org](#).*

THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN: LIAM GILLICK AND MARIANNE VITALE Liam Gillick’s installed a vivid minimalist sort of architectural sculpture on the grounds of Laguna Gloria and, in the Jones Center downtown, the second in his series of videos “dealing with specific architectural sites toward the construction of new, speculative narratives addressing territory, power, and change.” **Marianne Vitale**’s gone rather architectural here, too, using her signature railroad ties and other articles of industrial ferroequinia to build full-size bridges with; and those bridges then set on fire and extinguished before they turn to ash – and now meticulously transported to TCA’s Jones Center. *Through Jan. 4. 700 Congress, 512/453-5312. [www.thecontemporaryaustin.org](#).*

THE OWL GALLERY: MULTISTABLE “Images investigating the phenomena of unreconcilable experience linked to photography.” Perhaps this Owl is not what it seems. *1522 E. 12th. 512/579-7451.*

TINY PARK: A CATALOGUE Gallerists **Thao Votang** and **Brian Willey** present work by 30 Austin-based artists, chosen regardless of media, subject, conceptual leaning, age, or career stage. This year-end exhibition’s an aesthetic salmagundi featuring art by **Sandy Carson, Autumn Spadaro, Anthony Garza, Claude van Lingen, Jules Buck Jones, Janaye Brown, Michael Sieben, Russell Etchen, Sonya Berg, Jamie Panzer, Leah Haney, Kevin McNamee-Tweed,** and more. *Through Jan. 18. Saturdays, noon-5pm. 1101 Navasota #2. [www.tinyparkgallery.com](#).*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: WILL KLEMM “Luminous still life and landscape work in oil completed over the last year.” Indeed, the key word for this solo show by the masterful Klemm is “luminous,” and the paintings on display here will light up even the darkest of these wintry days. *Through Dec. 24. 1202 W. Sixth, 512/472-7428. [www.wallyworkmangallery.com](#).*

YARD DOG FOLK ART: SIBERIAN STREET SCENES Pennsylvania artist **Kurt Herrmann**’s watercolors document a recent trip to visit his in-laws in Siberia. *Through Dec. 31. 1510 S. Congress, 512/912-1613. [www.yarddog.com](#).*

ZILKER BOTANICAL GARDEN: PERCUSSION OF THOUGHT Austin artist **Chesiel John** showcases her passion for giving new life to found objects with this **collection of repurposed barrel drums** adorned with an array of ephemera. *Through Dec. 30. 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 512/477-8672. \$2 (\$1, children). [www.tmofo.org](#).*

LITERA

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

BOOKWOMAN POETRY READING Featuring Austin poets **Shubb Bala Schiesser** and **Elaine Hosage**, with **Cindy Huyser** hosting. Open mic follows. *Thu., Dec. 12, 7:15pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 512/472-2785. Free. [www.ebookwoman.com](#).*

AWESMIC CITY AUSTIN TEXAS DAY PEACE WAVE music and poetry, featuring Austin poets and musicians: **Michelle Stewart, Claudine Meinhardt, Peggy Wright, Anyah Dishon,** and more. *Fri., Dec. 13, 11am-6pm. Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury, 512/577-5171. Free. [www.awesmiccityaustintexas.com](#).*

AMY TAN: VALLEY OF AMAZEMENT The bestselling author of *The Joy Luck Club* presents her new epic of two women’s intertwined fates and their search for identity, that moves from the lavish parlors of Shanghai courtesans to the fog-shrouded mountains of a remote Chinese village. *Tue., Dec. 17, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 512/472-5050. [www.bookpeople.com](#).*



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Day Trips

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The **Esquire Tavern** in San Antonio has the longest wooden bar in Texas at just over 100 feet. More importantly, it also has affordable prices, good food, and history.

The full-sheet whiskey menu does a room like this proud, as do the pressed tin ceiling tiles and stuffed animals. Although it originated in only 1933, the Esquire

belongs on the list with historic establishments like the Menger Hotel Bar. Even though it was thoroughly modernized in 2011, the Esquire has the feel of old San Antone.

From the Commerce Street entrance, the tavern looks like the Sixties-era dive it used to be. From the River Walk, the bare limestone blocks covered in green moss exude history, and you have to climb a flight of iron stairs. At the top are a few outdoor tables overlooking the tour barges plying the canalized river.

During the day, a few tourists wander in, but the lunch crowd is mostly professionals. When the nearby courthouse empties, the booths and elbow-polished bar are filled with happy-hour revelers. They’re all drawn by the assortment of local beers and made-from-scratch food that goes beyond the usual pub grub. The bison burger and pimento grilled cheese sandwich are top-notch.

The Esquire Tavern is at 155 E. Commerce St. in downtown San Antonio. The James Beard Award-nominated bar and grill is open daily from 11:30am ’til midnight, and ’til 2am on Fridays and Saturdays.

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Top: Keaton Brandt as Ralphie;
Chris Gibson as The Old Man.
Above: Martin Burke. Photos: KirkTuck.com
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BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Need something Austin-y (art, jewelry, prints, clothing, etc., whatnot, and then some) for a loved one this year? More than 135 artists and artisans will help you with your gifting conundrums. Special events occur throughout the month of December, so shop early and often. *Every day through Dec. 24, 10am-10pm. The Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 6406 N I-35, 512/494-6178. Free. www.bluegenieartbazaar.com.*

UNDER \$100 ART SHOW Local art on display without the risk of spending more than a C-note. Unless you buy more than one piece. Hmmmm, maybe that's why they're serving whiskey. *Thu., Dec. 12, 6-9pm. Austin Art Garage, 2200-J S. Lamar, 512/351-5934. Free. www.austinartgarage.com.*

VSA TEXAS HOLIDAY ART & GIFT SHOW Support local artists with disabilities, and get some holiday shopping done at the same time. Braille cards, prints, ornaments, books, and original art all await your holiday dollars. *Through Dec. 24, Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. AGE Building, 3710 Cedar, 512/454-9912. Free. www.vsatx.org.*

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Nothing says holidays in Austin like scouring aisles and aisles of local art, crafts, and – thank God – beer. All while surrounded by tunes from one of many musical acts performing this year. Don't worry; Post Office reps will be on the premises to spare you from lugging all that holiday cheer home. *Dec. 17-24, 11am-11pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. \$7 (free, kids). www.armadillobazaar.com.*

LAKE TRAVIS CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Art, crafts, vintage duds, and other giftable goods will be on hand. Music, food, and Santa will also be there. *Sat., Dec. 14, 12-6pm. Iguana Grill, 2900 RR 620 N., 512/266-8439. Free. www.facebook.com/events/1430076600541891.*

RIDGETOP ELEMENTARY WINTER BAZAAR Peruse some gifts, and know that proceeds from the event go to this local elementary school. *Sat., Dec. 14, 10am-4pm. Ridgetop Elementary, 5005 Caswell, 512/698-6269. Free.*

TEXAS MUSIC MUSEUM HOLIDAY FESTIVAL Dr. Jason Mellard will sign his book about the history of the Texan image through the Seventies. When that's through, check out the crafts, music, and other giftable things on sale. *Sat., Dec. 14, 1-6pm. Texas Music Museum, 1009 E. 11th, 512/472-8891. Free. www.texasmusicmuseum.org.*

THE AUSTIN FLEA Two days, two locations, and two chances to get that perfect gift. Local, hand-made jewelry, glasswork, clothing, artwork, paper goods, textiles, and more await adventurous shoppers. *Sat., Dec. 14, 11am-5pm, Red's Porch, 3508 S. LaMarch. Sun., Dec. 15, 11am-5pm, Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto. Free. www.austinflea.net.*

ARABIC BAZAAR Arabic music, belly dancing and belly-dance classes, complimentary Arabic sweets, candy, and coffee – all of these accompany a bazaar full of goodies from Syria, Egypt, and Morocco for exotic holiday gifts. *Sundays through Dec. 22, 10am-7pm. Arabic Bazaar, 5013 Duval St., 512/533-9227. www.thearabicbazaar.com.*

LOCAL DESIGNERS TRUNK SHOW Criminal Class Creations, Four Small Cats, and Rebekah Victoria show their wearable art for the fashion conscious on your gifting list. Or for yourself; we won't judge. *Sun., Dec. 15, 2-5pm. Stella Says Go, Fifth & Lamar, 512/524-5020. Free. www.stellasaysgo.com.*

MONOFONUS BLOWOUT BLITZ Your local all-in-one purveyors of music, books, and art host this blow-out sale of their inventory. T-shirts, zines, cassettes, and everything else will be at bargain basement prices, but only for five hours. *Sun., Dec. 15, 12-5pm. Mass Gallery, 916 Springdale. www.monofonuspress.com.*

COMMUNITY

AUSTIN TRAIL OF LIGHTS Still bright and free after all these years. Every day has live entertainment, myriad photo ops, and, of course, funnel cake. Go online for a schedule of shuttles and other transpo options. You can pay online for parking or a pass that lets you cut everyone in line. Bike racks will be available for you pedal pushers. *Every day through Dec. 22, 7-10pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-6700. Free. www.austintrailoflights.org.*

LA PASTORELA – A SHEPERDELA'S STORIA This comedy for the whole family is a cherished holiday tradition, now with a new twist. Directed by Patricio Villarreal Avila for the Austin Latino Theatre Alliance, performed in Spanish with English surtitles. *Through Dec. 22: Thursdays & Fridays, 8pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 7pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 512/537-2582. \$15 (\$10, kids). www.altateatro.com.*

PROTOS ART + TECH LABS The Protos fest brings its unique combination of tech, art, and social impact to a new series of minifests complete with A/V experimentation, electronic music, and demos of all sort. *Fri., Dec. 13, 9pm-2am. The North Door, 502 Brushy, 512/485-3002. \$10 (\$5, advance). www.protosfestival.tumblr.com.*

CLEAN LADY BIRD LAKE Register online, and get in a green mood. Bring your kayak to help clean up where the land-bound volunteers can't reach. Location info will be provided with registration. *Sat., Dec. 14, 9am. 512/391-0617. www.keeapaustinbeautiful.org.*

GOOGLE GLASS OPEN HOUSE DEMONSTRATION The future is now! Google brings their wearable computers to ATX and you can try them out. RSVP online and look like an extra in a sci-fi movie. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 14-15, 10am-6pm. Brazos Hall, 204 E. Fourth, 512/380-1675. Free. www.austinthroughglass.splashthat.com.*

TINPLATE TRACKERS TRAIN CLUB Come watch the choo-choos and inspire the next generation to keep this historic hobby alive and well. You might even be allowed to sit behind the controls if you're kind enough to the tip jar. *Saturdays, 11am-5pm and Sundays, noon-5pm through Jan. 1. ArtSpace, 231 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/689-2450. Donations appreciated. www.trainweb.org/ttat.*

DECK THE DISTRICT HOLIDAY WINDOW WALK Local design students were given free rein to create festive storefront window for Downtown businesses. Check them out and be on the look out for carolers and Santa himself. *Sat., Dec. 14, 1-6pm. 2nd Street District, 201 Lavaca, 512/479-7600. Free. www.2ndstreetdistrict.com.*

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS Local school choirs perform the holiday favorites and invite you to sing along. *Sat., Dec. 14, 1-5pm. French Legation Museum, 802 San Marcos St., 512/472-8180. Free. www.frenchlegationmuseum.org.*

LUMINATIONS Live holiday tunes, Frosty, crafts for the kids, and more are all illuminated with thousands of lights and luminarias. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 14-15, 6-9pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 512/232-0100. Free with two canned goods. www.wildflower.org/luminations.*

PROPER NANG FOR HAAM Local live music acts play for a good cause. *Sat., Dec. 14, 6-9pm. Maria's Taco Xpress, 2529 S. Lamar, 512/444-0261.*

FAT BOTTOM CABARET: MIDNIGHT MENAGERIE These ladies have a little extra junk in their trunks and they're not afraid to shake it in the spirit of the holidays. *Sat., Dec. 14, 8:30pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy, 512/485-3002. \$15.*

PHILIPPINES TYPHOON FUNDRAISER Four bands, one good cause. *Sat., Dec. 14, 9:30pm-2am. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe, 832/814-4053. \$5. www.facebook.com/events/1417984218431984.*

OUT OF TOWN

THE CHRISTMAS JOURNEY Drive-through by car or on a horse-drawn wagon to see the Christmas story depicted with live characters, animals, and hand-painted scenery. *Fri.-Sat, Dec. 13-14, 6-8:30pm. Bethany Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg, 830/997-2069. Free. www.bethanyfredericksburg.com.*

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT Join the longest-running citizen science survey in the world, as the 114th annual Christmas Bird Count collects critical census data on population trends. Note: The largest number of bird species ever reported in the U.S. was 250 observed on Dec. 19, 2005, in Matagorda County, Texas. *Dec. 14-Jan. 5. www.houstonaudubon.org.*

CHRISTMAS IN WINEDALE Experience a re-creation of a 1800s Christmas with wagon rides, craft demonstrations, games, music, and kid-friendly farm animals. *Sat., Dec. 14, 12-4pm. Winedale Historical Complex, Round Top, 979/278-3530. www.cah.utexas.edu/museums/winedale_christmas.php.*

LAMPLIGHT TOURS OF THE LBJ BOYHOOD HOME See how the president's family might have celebrated Christmas before electricity arrived in the Hill Country. Then walk to the Johnson Settlement and experience how LBJ's grandparents might have spent the holiday. *Sat., Dec. 14, 6-9pm. 200 E. Elm St., Johnson City, 830/868-7128 x231. Free.*

SPORTS

THE MAIN EVENT

AUSTIN TOROS The season is just getting started for your local b-ball squad, so get out there and make some noise. *Thu., Dec. 5, 7:30pm, vs. Texas; Sun., Dec. 8, 3pm, vs. Reno; Thu., Dec. 12, 11am, vs. Rio Grande Valley. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$4-99. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.*

ANARCHY CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING With a name like Delusions Of Our Childish Days, you'd think the pro wrestlers would be having a regression sesh to get in touch with their inner children. That's not the case. Instead the women and men of ACW will work out their issues with some good, old-fashioned pain. *Sun., Dec. 15, 5:15-10pm. Mohawk, 912 Red River, 512/482-8404. \$12 (\$15, front row & balcony). www.anarchychampionshipwrestling.com.*


THE HOME TEAMS

ST. EDWARD'S BASKETBALL Vs. Oklahoma Panhandle State. Women at 5:30pm. Men at 7:30pm. Recreation and Convocation Center, 3001 S. Congress. \$5. www.athletics.stedwards.edu.

UT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Vs. Sam Houston State. *Sun., Dec. 15, 2pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/471-7744. \$4-12. www.texassports.com.*

Hornography

BY RUSS ESPINOZA



Damn near all of Austin got thrown for a loop Tuesday afternoon when **Chip Brown** of OrangeBloods.com came forth with the news that **Mack Brown** plans to resign as head coach this week after 16 seasons at the Longhorns' helm. Brown and the university denied the report.

"If I had decided to step down," the coach replied from south Florida, where he said he was recruiting, "I sure wouldn't be killing myself down here."

Brown's Longhorns lost a crucial game at No. 6 Baylor on Saturday that some felt would spell sudden death for the long-tenured coach. Without a Big 12 title and its subsequent Fiesta Bowl invite, The Longhorn's (8-4, 7-2 in the Big 12) consolation prize is an Alamo Bowl date with No. 10 Oregon (10-2) on Dec. 30, which, these days, just ain't gonna be good enough.

At 158-47, Brown is the second-winningest head coach in Texas school history, having led UT to two Big 12 titles, nine straight seasons of 10 or more wins, 15 bowl games, four BCS bowls, a BCS title in 2005, and a second title-game appearance in 2009. The 62-year-old veteran would be invincible if time stopped right there. But Brown frequently touts UT football as "Austin's professional team," and in the business of professional sports, the million-dollar question is always "What have you done for me lately?" In his case, the answer is "Not enough."

TEXAS STARS Let's give ourselves the gift of victory this holiday season. *Fri., Dec. 13, 7:30pm, vs. Chicago; Wed., Dec. 18, 7:30pm, vs. San Antonio. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$17-47. www.texasstarshockey.com.*

CONCORDIA BASKETBALL Women, 1pm; men, 3pm; both vs. Mary Hardin-Baylor. Concordia Fieldhouse, 11400 Concordia University Dr. \$5. athletics.concordia.edu.

UT VS TEXAS STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL Sat., Dec. 14, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/471-7744. \$6-25. www.texassports.com.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

FULL MOON CRUISE It's a full moon (or pretty close) so why not grab your bike for a group ride? *Mon., Dec. 16, 12mid (technically Tuesday morning). Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge, Lamar & Riverside.*

BUBBLE RUN It's another run with "obstacles." In this case, bubbles! *Sat., Dec. 14, 9am. Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker, 512/854-4900. \$40. www.bubblerun.com.*

HITS ENDURANCE Whether you want to run a quick mile or an entire marathon, this race has you covered. Hopefully your body will be inspired by the locale and you'll speed around the track like a race car. *Sat., Dec. 14, 7am. Circuit of the Americas, 9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd., 512/301-6600. \$20-120. www.hitsendurance.com.*

KIDS

KIDSACTING PRESENTS FRANKENSTEIN Frankenstein, his monster, and a bevy of other monsters take the stage in a family-friendly production. *Dec. 8-15. Center Stage Texas, 2826 Real St., 512/836-5437. \$12 (\$10, kids). www.kidsactingstudio.com.*

HOLIDAY HEROES This fun-for-the-whole-family show explores various holiday traditions through the eyes of two musically inclined but bumbling stagehands.

Since 2010, Brown has failed according to every barometer of success for a high-end program – save the money he's generated for the school. Conference championships and BCS bowls? None. Defending the home field? The Horns haven't beaten a ranked opponent at DKR in their last eight tries. Beating OU? One win in four years, and a 29-point margin of defeat in three losses. Recruiting superior talent at quarterback? Check the depth chart. Those guys have all gone to Baylor, A&M, and TCU.

Brown's exceptional record and decorations during his first 12 seasons as coach speak for themselves, but it would be a classic case of addition-by-subtraction for the program's future if Tuesday's rumors foreshadow the end of an era.

Texas is, in effect, an 8-5 program the last four seasons. Since then, when they've lost, it's been by an average of 17 points. They can't beat good teams with consistency, and their biggest problem is that nobody expects them to. Mack needs to bow out before every young footballer in the country starts believing UT has become a second-rate program inside a fancy shell.

2015's recruits will have been in elementary school the last time UT factored into the national championship conversation. Texas' future depends on a big splash of new blood.

Sat., Dec. 7 & 14, 11am. Zach Theatre's Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside, 512/476-0541. \$16 (\$14, kids). www.zachtheatre.org.

CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER The Austin City Ballet presents the 13th annual *Nutcracker* for the kids. It's a holiday tradition for all age groups, as long as you don't consider watching people leap in tights "adult." Fri.-Sun., Dec. 13-23. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-4000. \$25 (\$15, children). www.austincityballet.org.

SECOND SHEPHERDS' PLAY Learn the story of Coll, Daw, and Gib: shepherds who were the first to see baby Jesus. At least that's how it goes down in this staged comedy written in medieval times. Appropriate for all ages. Saturdays & Sundays, Dec. 7-22. Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th, 512/472-5436. \$9 (\$6, kids). www.scottishritetheater.org.

FAMILY HOLIDAY SING-ALONG Come in your holiday jim-jams or other festive gear and let the holiday spirit inspire you to sing. Cookie decorating afterward. Sat., Dec. 14, 10:30am. Laura's Library, 9411 Bee Cave Road, 512/327-3045. Free. www.westbanklibrary.com.

FAMILY SATURDAY: GINGERBREAD HOUSES Make a beautiful and delicious gingerbread house and then make like Godzilla and destroy it. Recommended for kids 2-11. Sat., Dec. 14, 11am-3pm. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 512/458-8191. \$10 per family (\$5, members). www.thecontemporaryaustin.org/education.

LETTERS TO SANTA HOLIDAY MUSICAL Watch as Jolly the Elf reads letters to Santa from all around the globe. The letters will be performed using dance, acting, and song. Perfect for all ages. Sat., Dec. 14, 3:30 & 6pm. LifeAustin, 8901 Hwy. 71 W., 512/291-2179. \$15 (\$12, kids). www.putartinyourheart.com.

Soccer Watch

BY NICK BARBARO

The **World Cup draw** announced Friday put the **United States** in the **Group of Death** with **Germany, Portugal, and Ghana** – two of the top five teams in the world, plus the African power that's knocked the U.S. out of the last two WCs. National team coach **Jürgen Klinsmann** and his team put a good face on it, noting that it's largely their own No. 14 world ranking that makes this a group of death. It's June 12-July 13 in Brazil.

The **European Champions League** group stage concluded this week, with **England** and **Germany** each advancing all four teams into next spring's 16-team knockout round, and the three **Spanish** giants winning their groups... Host **Kansas City** won the **MLS Cup**, in a marathon shootout win over Real Salt Lake... **UCLA** won the **Women's College Cup**; **NCAA Men's** final four is upcoming this week... The **Trinity** (San Antonio) women suffered their first loss of the season in the NCAA Div. III final Saturday in San Antonio. William Smith won the title, 2-0.

ALL AGES IMPROV NIGHT First the kids perform an original, improvised play. After that, the adults take the reins as they produce a family-friendly show. Sundays through Dec. 15, 6:15pm. ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, 512/809-0017. \$3-5 suggested donation. www.moveyourtale.com.

POSADA CELEBRATION Southwest Key's Latino Arts Preservation Program students use song, dance, and more to tell a traditional Mexican *posada*. Mr. Claus will be there to distract kids from the crafts, face-

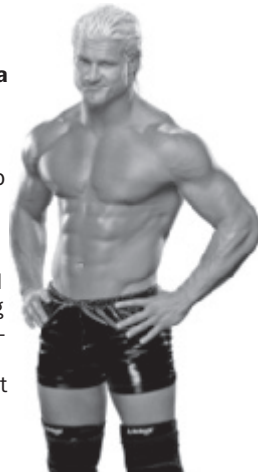
painting, and other fun things to do. Thu., Dec. 19, 6-8pm. Southwest Key Community Center, 6002 Jain, 512/583-2568. Free.

HOLIDAY HIP-HOP THEATRE EXPLOSION Zell Miller III hosts this evening of family-friendly poets, dancers, singers, and theatre artists all with a hip-hop bent. Thu.-Sat., Dec. 19-21, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$20 (\$30, priority seating). www.vortexrep.org.

WWE Presents Raw

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

After this weekend's TLC pay-per-view, Austinites will see their first unified WWE champion since **Brock Lesnar** in 2002. **John Cena** – the modern Hulk Hogan – walks in holding the World Heavyweight Championship, while the viper **Randy Orton** slithers in with the World Championship around his torso. Bar the usual WWE swerve, one of those men enters the Frank Erwin Center as a double champ on Tuesday. But beyond the headliners, this is the best roster the WWE has fielded in a decade. Slamming in the mid-card are the cocky **Dolph Ziggler** (it's only arrogance if you can't back it up), the unstoppable **Daniel Bryan** and the best in the world, **CM Punk**. Add in a tag-team division with the comedy genius of the redneck-baiting **Real Americans**, the Samoan wrestling royalty the **Usos**, the menacing **Shield**, and the Southern-fried horror of the **Wyatt Family**. Plus, with a women's roster – headlined by the tiny but toxic **AJ Lee** – that has rarely looked stronger, this could be one of the best Christmas presents the WWE has given us in a long time.



Tue., Dec. 17, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/471-7744. \$15-95. www.uterwincenter.com/events/2013/wwe-monday-night-raw.

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WHERE CAN METRORAIL TAKE ME THIS WEEKEND?

THE PEOPLE'S GALLERY: ART AFTER SIX

Featured artists Lisa Eisenbrey, Alyssa Taylor Wendt, and Suzanne Koett discuss their works displayed in the 2013 exhibition right there in the glorious gallery surrounded by rooms in which all the bidness gets done. Fri., Dec. 13, 6-8pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 512/974-7700. Free. www.austintexas.gov

COMEDY! BRIAN GAAR AT THE VELVEETA ROOM

This local stand-up comic's got a head full of bad videogames and warped pop-culture references dripping out his ears, and, as if his hilarious brand of humor isn't enough, tonight's show is hosted by the ever-delightful Kerri Lendo. Sat., Dec. 14, 9:30 & 11:30pm. 521 E. Sixth, 512/469-9116. \$10. www.thevelveetaroom.com

AUSTIN TRAIL OF LIGHTS

Still bright and free after all these years. Every day has live entertainment, myriad photo ops, and, of course, funnel cake. Go online for a schedule of shuttles and other transpo options. You can pay online for parking or a pass that lets you cut everyone in line. Bike racks will be available for your pedal pushers. Every day through Dec. 22, 7-10pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-6700. Free. www.austintrailoflights.org.

LA PASTORELA - A SHEPERDELA'S STORIA

This comedy for the whole family is a cherished holiday tradition, now with a new twist. Directed by Patricio Villarreal Avila for the Austin Latino Theatre Alliance, performed in Spanish with English surtitles. Through Dec. 22: Thursdays & Fridays, 8pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 7pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 512/537-2582. \$15 (\$10, kids). www.altateatro.com.



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The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug

D: Peter Jackson; with Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman, Richard Armitage, Benedict Cumberbatch, Evangeline Lilly, Lee Pace, Luke Evans, Stephen Fry, Ken Stott, Orlando Bloom, Graham McTavish, William Kircher, Dean O'Gorman. (PG-13, 161 min.)

Superior in nearly all ways to its predecessor, this second of Peter Jackson's epic adaptations of

J.R.R. Tolkien's not-nearly-as-massive prequel to *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy is a welcome surprise. I'd been dreading another two to three hours of chanting dwarves, puzzled-sweet Bilbo Baggins (Freeman), and the director's oft-smothering mother love for the 48 frames-per-second technical trickery and 3-D, but *The Desolation of Smaug* chuffs along at a steady, if still overly lengthy, stride, thanks in all ways to the titular dragon-of-all-dragons, Smaug the, um, great and terrible. Granted, the scaly marvel doesn't present himself until the final third of the film, but as voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch, the nail-gnawing reveal is worth the wait – and then some.

I'm not even going to attempt to capsuleize Jackson and co-writers Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens, and Guillermo del Toro's jam-packed plotting; you either know what's going on going in, or you don't. But among the film's many high points are the additions of the Woodland Elves – and, in particular, the enchantingly rough-and-tumble Tauriel (Lilly) – and, oh yes, the *giant spiders*. What's not to love? Well, the 161-minute running time, for one

thing. Jackson, like Smaug, has developed a bad habit of piling on the shiny stuff to the point where, at times, you feel downright over-awed. There's so much going on – Ian McKellen's Gandalf is off on his own quest now, the dwarves accompanying burglar Bilbo are prone to more infighting than the

NBA, and the ugly mugs of the Orcs come in wave after wave – that it's easy to lose sight of the fact that, at its heart, this is a relatively simple quest tale. (I'm unsure what Joseph Campbell would make of all the bells and whistles and severed Orc noggins that Jackson has added to Tolkien's original mix.)

Still, *The Desolation of Smaug* is, on the whole, a vast improvement over *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*. It's a popcorn movie (in the best sense) disguised as deep-core nerdism. Of course, the nerds

(and, as someone who spent most of sixth grade reading Tolkien and Frank Herbert, I proudly count myself among them) will be ecstatic over Jackson's fealty to his source, but the rest of the audience will tremble with dread at the shifty spell of Smaug as well. Well done, Mr. Jackson.

RECOMMENDED



Alamo Ritz, Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, Bullock Museum, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

NEW REVIEWS

OUT OF THE FURNACE

D: Scott Cooper; with Christian Bale, Woody Harrelson, Casey Affleck, Sam Shepard, Willem Dafoe, Zoe Saldana, Forest Whitaker. (R, 115 min.)

At first glance, the title of this film may conjure images of yet one more return of the burnt and disfigured boogeyman Freddy Krueger, rising from the depths of the boiler room where angry parents chased him all those decades ago in order to vanquish their nightmare on Elm Street. (Or is it just me?) At any rate, strike that image: The furnace referenced in the title belongs to the steel mill in Braddock, Pa. – one of many that belched smoke into the skies of the towns throughout America's Rust Belt, leaving a permanent fog of gray soot in the atmosphere that grows ever more bleak as the mills and factories continue to downsize and close, leaving the region's workers as hopeless as the landscape. With its settings and themes, the film that *Out of the Furnace* calls to mind more than any other is *The Deer Hunter*.

Like his father before him, Russell (Bale) goes to work every day at Braddock's mill. His brother Rodney (Affleck), however, chooses one of the few paths out of this cycle by joining the army, and, as *Out of the Furnace* opens, Rodney is about to head back for his fourth tour of duty due to the military's unrelenting stop-loss program. There's a pinched and haunted look on Rodney's face that speaks volumes about what he's seen and done and now struggles to live with. There's a sense of desperation about him that leads him to gamble at the OTB parlor with doomed money borrowed from the local loan shark (Dafoe), and later seek thrills and punishment in the underground sport of bare-knuckle boxing. Meanwhile a vehicular accident results in Russell doing time in the penitentiary for manslaughter. He's in there long enough for his girlfriend (Saldana) to have abandoned him for the local sheriff (Whitaker) and for Rodney to have returned from Iraq.

Back at the steel mill after his stint in jail, Russell tries to rebuild his life. When brother Rodney goes missing after a bare-knuckle fight in the backwoods of neighboring New Jersey, Russell and his uncle (Shepard) go after the thugs and their leader, Harlan DeGroat (Harrelson). Harlan is one of the nastiest characters Harrelson has even played. (On a talk show recently, Harrelson described the character's lack of redeeming qualities by saying, "He sometimes brushes his teeth.") These three central characters – Russell, Rodney, and Harlan – are memorably etched by the actors, and as a filmmaker, Scott Cooper's greatest talent appears to be working with actors. His debut film *Crazy Heart* earned Jeff Bridges an Oscar; his second film, *Out of the Furnace*, is most notable for the terrific performances on display. Yet, the screenplay, which was originally written by Brad Ingelsby and rewritten by Cooper, is fairly predictable and rote. Too many of the film's supporting characters suffer from underwritten roles. Yet *Out of the Furnace* brims with atmosphere and Bale, Affleck, and Harrelson deliver some of their finest acting work. Smokestack lightning this film is not, but *Out of the Furnace* nevertheless provides a solid whiff.

★★★

– Marjorie Baumgarten

Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

TYLER PERRY'S A MEDEA CHRISTMAS

D: Tyler Perry; with Perry. (PG-13, 100 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The auteur from Atlanta dons his Madea drag once more to spread holiday cheer.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate



BY MARC SAVLOV

FIRST RUNS

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

★ ABOUT TIME

D: Richard Curtis; with Domhnall Gleeson, Rachel McAdams, Bill Nighy, Lydia Wilson, Lindsay Duncan, Tom Hollander, Richard Cordery. (R, 123 min.)

Yes, this is a romantic dramedy about a man who can travel back in time to do over what he bungled on the first try, but the high concept belies more earthbound concerns: how hard it can be to live in the moment, how heartbreaking it can be to admit powerlessness to fix fate. Kind but unsure, stammering Tim (Gleeson) is turning 21 when his father (Nighy) informs him of their peculiar ability to move backward – but never forward – in time. Curtis's film moves episodically, leisurely, through roughly a decade, and that feels like a gift: to nestle in with these extraordinary, ordinary people and get to know them. *About Time*, so full of compassion and care, is something different – a kind of benevolence which made me want to fall in love, hug a small child, call my parents, and take back the half-dozen thoughtless things I'd said that day. (11/01/2013)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones Arbor

★ ALL IS LOST

D: J.C. Chandor; with Robert Redford. (PG-13, 106 min.)

"This is the *Virginia Jean* with an SOS call. Over." That right there is very near the totality of dialogue in this brutalizing picture of one man lost at sea. Written and directed by J.C. Chandor (*Margin Call*), *All Is Lost* begins with a man (Redford) – "Our Man," as he's billed in the credits – waking to discover that a mislaid cargo container in the Indian Ocean has ripped a hole in the hull of his boat. All is not lost: Our Man is clever and resourceful, and the film is fascinating in the meticulousness with which it catalogs his every movement to ballast the listing ship. As indicated by the title, a lot goes wrong for Our Man, and at a certain point, the pile-on of calamities is almost comical, even as it is ruthlessly realistic. This is compulsively watchable stuff, a masterstroke of thoughtful direction and thought-provoking performance. (11/08/2013)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones Arbor

BAGGAGE CLAIM

D: David E. Talbert; with Paula Patton, Derek Luke, Taye Diggs, Jill Scott, Adam Brody, Djimon Hounsou, Boris Kodjoe, Tremaine Neverson, Jennifer Lewis, Ned Beatty, Lauren London, Christina Milian. (PG-13, 96 min.)

This rom-com about a desperate-to-wed flight attendant never achieves liftoff. The story is based on writer/director David E. Talbert's own novel, but instead of a comfortable familiarity, the film yields only clichés. Really, how hard can it be to find Mr. Right when a guy named Mr. Wright (Luke) lives right next door? Montana Moore (Patton) is a 30-year-old

flight attendant who goes into a panic when her younger sister (London) announces her engagement. Vowing to find herself an eligible bachelor by the time of the wedding, Montana and her flight-attendant pals – cleavage-baring Gail (Scott) and limp-wristed Sam (Brody) – concoct a harebrained plan to track the flight itineraries of all Montana's ex-boyfriends and see if they have changed into husband material. The strong likability quotient for everyone onscreen keeps the movie minimally afloat, but *Baggage Claim* really should be left at the carousel. (09/27/2013)

★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten Millennium

★ THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY

D: Malcolm D. Lee; with Monica Calhoun, Morris Chestnut, Melissa De Sousa, Taye Diggs, Regina Hall, Terrence Howard. (R, 122 min.)

Welcome to middle age, friends. This sequel to 1999's twentysomethings comedy *The Best Man*

– in which a guy turns the secret of a one-night stand with his best friend's girl into the barely fictionalized fodder for his first novel (spoiler: It all works out in the end) – is all thumping on-the-nose. But writer/director Malcolm D. Lee is admirably candid about what a big fat lie that 14-year-old spoiler is: It didn't actually all work out in the end. Everybody got older. Friends drifted apart. Fifteen years later, Lance (Chestnut) and wife Mia (Calhoun), who survived the revelation of Mia's lapse in fidelity, have invited all their old college pals to stay for Christmas. High spirits mark the first half of the film. Then, a well-telegraphed plot turn steers us into nose-honking, sleeve-sogging weepie country, and it is *marvelous*. And even, yes, a little sexy. Take that, middle age. (11/15/2013)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

FILM LISTINGS





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openings

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug
(PG-13)

Tyler Perry's A Medea Christmas (PG-13)

ratings

- ★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
- ★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
- ★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
- ★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
- ★ Poor, without any saving graces
- ◉ La bomba

SHOWTIMES

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth, 512/476-1320. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily by phone or website.
Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Thu (12/19), 9:30pm
Master Pancake: Christmas Show: Fri, 7:15, 10:00; Sat, 7:00, 10:00
The News in Cinema: *Citizen Kane*: Mon, 7:20pm
Action Pack: *Elf* Quote-Along: Thu (12/19), 6:50pm
Kids' Club: *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas*: Sat, 12:30pm
The Hobbit: *An Unexpected Journey*: Tue, 3:45pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug": Fri, 12:10, 3:30, 4:10, 7:45, 11:25; Sat, 10:45am, 3:05, 4:40, 8:20pm; Sun, 10:40am, 11:40, 2:20, 3:25, 6:00, 10:00, 12mid; Mon, 2:30, 3:40, 6:20, 10:20; Tue, 2:45, 6:35, 10:15; Wed, 2:15, 3:35, 7:25, 10:35; Thu (12/19), 2:00, 3:15, 10:00
Home Alone: Sun, 7:15pm
Cinema Club: *In the Heat of the Night*: Wed, 7:15pm
Laurel & Hardy's Festival of Laifs: Sat, 2:30pm
**Girllie Night: Live Actually: Tue, 7:30pm
Terror Tuesday: Silent Night, Deadly Night: Part 2: Tue, 10:40pm
**Weird Wednesday: The Silent Partner: Wed, 10:15pm
ATX Television Fix: TV Night: Sun, 9:40pm
Mon Arigato!: Unzipped: Mon, 10:00pm****

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKELINE 14028 U.S. 183 N., Bldg. F, 512/861-7070.
Dallas Buyers Club (Fri, 10:10am, 1:05, 4:25, 7:55, 8:50pm; Sat, 10:25am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:40, 4:35, 6:20, 9:35pm; Mon, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25; Tue, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:35, 6:20, 9:30pm; Wed, 12:35, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40; Thu (12/19), 11:55am, 2:50, 6:00, 8:55pm
Action Pack: *Elf* Quote-Along: Mon, 7:00pm
"Frozen": Fri, 11:00am, 12:40, 3:25, 6:00, 8:55, 9:40pm; Sat, 10:25am, 1:30, 3:35, 6:00, 7:25, 9:00, 9:50pm; Sun, 10:00am, 2:25, 5:15, 6:00, 7:25, 9:00, 10:10pm; Mon, 10:30am, 12:25, 1:05, 3:40, 4:05, 6:15, 9:35pm; Tue, 10:35am, 1:15, 3:20, 4:40, 6:05, 6:45, 9:45pm; Wed, 10:00am, 12:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:25, 9:10pm; Thu (12/19), 10:30am, 1:00am, 4:55, 6:15, 9:10pm
Horror Society: Gremlins: Wed, 9:00pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D)": Fri, 9:40am, 10:00, 1:20, 5:00, 7:35, 8:40, 11:15pm; Sat, 9:40am, noon, 1:20, 4:40, 5:00, 7:45, 8:40, 11:25, 12:00pm; Sun, 9:40am, 12:40, 1:20, 2:40, 5:00, 8:00, 8:40, 11:00pm; Mon, 11:05am, 12:40, 2:45, 4:40, 6:25, 8:20, 9:55, 10:10pm; Tue, 10:40am, 11:55, 2:30, 3:00, 6:50, 7:50, 10:25, 11:30pm; Wed, 10:10am, 12:45, 2:30, 7:25, 11:05pm; Thu (12/19), 11:45am, 3:30, 7:40, 11:00pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D)": Fri, 10:20am, 11:55, 2:00, 3:35, 5:40, 7:15, 9:15, 10:55pm; Sat, 10:20am, 11:35, 2:00, 3:15, 5:40, 7:00, 9:15, 10:45pm; Sun, 10:20am, 11:40, 2:00, 3:20, 5:40, 7:00, 9:15, 10:40pm; Mon, 11:50am, 3:35, 3:55, 7:20, 7:40, 10:55, 11:15pm; Tue, 10:30am, 2:05, 3:25, 6:00, 7:10, 9:50, 10:50pm; Wed, 11:15am, 12:25, 2:55, 4:15, 6:35, 7:55, 10:15pm; Thu (12/19), 10:30am, 11:20, 2:15, 2:50, 6:00, 6:45, 9:40, 10:35pm
"The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" (Fri, 10:25am, 11:45, 3:05, 6:30, 7:55, 11:05, 11:35pm; Sat, 10:05am, 11:20, 3:05, 4:40, 8:20, 8:10, 10:00, 11:35pm; Sun, 10:55am, 12:20, 12:40, 4:10, 6:40, 7:35, 10:05, 11:35pm; Mon, 11:40am, 12:30, 3:20, 4:25, 8:05, 9:05, 11:25pm; Tue, 11:55am, 4:00, 4:50, 7:30, 8:10, 11:00, 11:40pm; Wed, 10:55am, 1:45, 3:50, 6:00, 9:35, 9:50, 10:55pm; Thu (12/19), 11:05am, 2:35, 7:00, 10:30, 11:15pm)
Kids' Camp: Lemmy Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events: Sat-Sun, 10:00am
Afternoon Tea: Little Women: Sun, 4:00pm
***Out of the Furnace:** Fri, noon, 2:55, 6:10, 9:10; Sat, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:25, 6:40, 10:15pm; Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 6:30, 9:25; Mon, 11:55am, 3:20, 6:50, 9:45pm; Tue, 12:30, 3:35, 6:30, 9:35; Wed, 10:05am, 5:10, 6:55, 10:20pm; Thu (12/19), 10:35am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:30, 10:35pm
Action Pack: Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party: Fri, 10:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SLAUGHTER LAKE 5701 W. Slaughter Ln., 512/476-1320. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily times by phone or website.
Action Pack: *Bad Santa* Quote-Along: Tue, 7:15pm
Action Pack: *The Big Lebowski* Quote-Along: Mon, 7:15pm
The Book Thief (Fri, 11:25am, 2:35, 6:40, 9:55pm; Sat, 12:10, 2:55, 6:05, 10:05; Sun, noon, 2:40, 9:10; Mon, 11:40am, 2:50, 7:05, 10:40pm; Tue, 11:00am, 4:45, 7:35, 10:50pm; Wed, noon, 3:10, 6:45, 9:55)

Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Wed, 7:15pm
Dallas Buyers Club (Fri, 11:00am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:55, 10:00pm; Sat, 11:55am, 1:15, 4:20, 7:25, 9:30pm; Sun, 11:50am, 1:55, 4:50, 8:00, 10:55pm; Mon, 11:15am, 2:10, 5:05, 8:00, 10:00pm; Tue, noon, 1:55, 7:50, 10:45; Wed, 11:50am, 2:30, 5:05, 8:00, 10:55pm
Action Pack: *Elf* Quote-Along: Sun-Mon, 7:15pm
***Frozen**: Fri, 10:00am, 12:45, 3:35, 6:30, 9:20pm; Sat, 10:30am, 12:40, 3:35, 6:40, 9:15pm; Sun, 9:15am, 11:00, 11:30, 4:15, 6:30, 9:35pm; Mon, 3:20, 6:00, 8:45; Tue, 11:00am, 2:10, 4:00, 6:10, 9:50pm; Wed, 11:25am, 2:15, 5:25, 6:45, 9:30pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug": Fri, 12:20am; Sat, 12mid; Sun, 9:20am, 1:00, 4:40, 8:20, 9:55, 12mid; Mon, 11:55am, 3:00, 6:55, 10:35pm; Tue, 12:45, 4:25, 6:50, 10:30; Wed, 11:35am, 3:30, 8:15, 10:30pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D)": Fri, 9:45am, 12:10, 1:25, 3:50, 5:05, 7:30, 7:45, 11:10pm; Sun, 9:45am, 11:25, 1:25, 3:51, 5:05, 7:05, 8:45, 10:45pm; Mon, 10:55am, 12:15, 2:35, 3:55, 6:35, 7:35, 10:15, 11:15pm; Tue, 10:55am, 11:55, 2:35, 3:45, 6:25, 7:30, 10:05, 11:10pm; Wed, 10:40am, 11:05, 2:20, 4:45, 6:00, 6:25, 9:40, 10:05pm
Kids' Camp: Hugo: Sat, 10:00am; Sun, 9:30am
"The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" (Fri, 11:40am, 3:05, 7:00, 10:25pm; Sat, 11:00am, 2:35, 6:20, 9:55pm; Sun, 12:35, 2:20, 6:00, 9:30; Mon, 11:40am, 3:40, 6:15, 9:35pm; Tue, 12:35, 3:35, 8:05, 11:25; Wed, 10:35am, 11:55, 3:15, 7:00, 10:20pm; Thu (12/19), 11:05am, 2:55, 8:05, 10:25pm
Drafthouse Films: Ms. 45: Fri, 11:00pm; Sun, 9:25pm
***Out of the Furnace:** Fri, 11:35am, 2:30, 5:25, 8:20, 11:15pm; Sat, 11:45am, 2:40, 5:35, 8:30, 11:25pm; Sun, 12:50, 3:45, 6:40, 11:20; Mon, 11:00am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:55pm; Tue, 1:45, 4:55, 8:00, 10:45
Action Pack: Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party: Sat, 10:15pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 512/459-7090. Tuesday matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and their children younger than 6. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily times by phone or website.
***Frozen**: Fri, 10:00am, 12:55, 3:40, 6:25, 9:10pm; Sat, 10:40am, 1:35, 4:15, 6:55, 9:35pm; Sun, 10:40am, 1:05, 4:40, 6:25, 9:40pm; Mon, 11:35am, 1:25, 7:45, 10:45pm; Tue, 11:25am, 3:10, 6:00pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug": Fri, 10:40am, 2:20, 6:00, 6:55, 9:40, 10:35pm; Sat, 10:40am, 12:15, 2:20, 6:00, 9:55, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:40am, 2:20, 3:10, 6:00, 9:55pm; Mon, 11:55am, 3:30, 6:00, 9:40pm; Tue, 11:55am, 2:15, 7:00, 10:10pm; Wed, 2:00, 7:55, 9:05; Thu (12/19), 11:40am, 6:00, 10:50pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D)": Fri, 9:20am, 11:55pm; Sun, 9:15am, 9:10pm; Mon, 2:15, 10:30; Wed, 11:50am; Thu (12/19), 3:20pm
"The Hunger Games: Catching Fire": Fri, 12:05, 4:15, 7:35, 10:55; Sat, 10:15am, 3:55, 7:35, 10:55pm; Sun, 11:50am, 1:35, 4:20, 7:35, 11:05pm; Mon, 11:05pm, 2:40, 10:10pm; Tue, 12:10, 3:30, 9:45; Wed, 12:15, 4:10, 7:35, 10:55; Thu (12/19), 11:20am, 2:40pm
Kids' Camp: Kung Fu Panda 2: Fri, 9:45am; Sun, 9:30am
Cine Las Americas: Pastorella: Sun, 4:00pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Action Pack: Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party: Sat, 10:30pm

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 512/231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm.
About Time (CC/DVS): Fri-Wed, 12:50, 3:50, 7:20, 10:15; Wed, 12:50pm
All Is Lost: Fri, 1:10, 4:10, 7:30, 10:05; Sat, 7:20, 10:15; Sun-Wed, 1:10, 4:10, 7:30, 10:05
Blue Jasmine (CC): Fri-Mon, 4:00, 7:40; Tue, 4:00pm; Wed, 4:00, 7:40
The Book Thief (CC/DVS): Fri-Wed, noon, 3:20, 6:40, 9:45
The Broken Circle Breakdown: Fri-Mon, 1:00, 10:10; Tue, 1:00pm; Wed, 1:00, 10:10
Dallas Buyers Club (CC): Fri-Wed, 12:20, 3:10, 7:00, 9:50
Opera: Falstaff: Sat, 11:55pm; Wed, 6:30pm
Nebraska (CC/DVS): Fri-Wed, 12:40, 3:30, 7:10, 10:00
Ballet: The Nutcracker: Tue, 7:00pm
Philomena (CC/DVS): Fri-Wed, 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10
12 Years a Slave (CC/DVS): Fri-Wed, 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 9:55

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/262-4386. Matinee discounts available before 4pm daily. Bring Your Baby matinees are the first Tuesday of every month.
"The Book Thief (digital)": Fri, 9:45am, 12:55, 3:55, 7:00, 10:10pm
"Dallas Buyers Club (digital)": Fri, 10:10am, 1:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:25pm
"Deliver Man (digital)": Fri, 9:25am, 12:05pm
***Frozen (3-D)**: Fri, 10:55am, 4:30, 9:55pm
Frozen (digital): Fri, 9:10am, 11:55, 1:45, 2:40, 5:25, 7:15, 8:05, 10:45pm
***Gravity (3-D)**: Fri, 11:50am, 4:55, 9:55pm
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D)": Fri-Sat, 9:40am, 1:15, 4:50, 8:25, 12mid; Sun, 9:40am, 1:15, 4:50, 8:25pm; Mon, 9:55am, 1:20, 4:50, 8:25pm; Tue-Wed, 1:20, 4:50, 8:25; Thu (12/19), 1:15, 4:50, 8:25
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D, IMAX): Fri-Sun, 9:00am, 12:35, 4:10, 7:45, 11:20pm; Mon-Thru (12/19), 12:35, 4:10, 7:45, 11:20
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (digital): Fri, 11:20am, 3:00, 5:45, 6:35, 9:25, 10:10pm; Sat, 12:19, 11:20am, 3:00, 5:35, 10:10pm
***Homefront (digital)**: Fri, 2:20, 7:25
"The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (digital)": Fri, 10:50am, 12:10, 2:20, 3:35, 5:15, 7:00, 8:35, 10:25, 11:50pm
***Out of the Furnace (digital)**: Fri, 11:10am, 2:05, 5:00, 7:55, 10:50pm
***Thor: The Dark World (digital)**: Fri, 10:25am, 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55pm
20 Feet From Stardom (digital): Fri, 2:45pm
Tyler Perry's A Media Christmas (digital): Fri, 9:45am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35pm

BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM 1800 N. Congress, 512/936-4629.
"The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" (Fri, 10:25am, 11:45, 3:05, 6:30, 7:55, 11:05, 11:35pm; Sat, 10:05am, 11:20, 3:05, 4:40, 8:20, 8:10, 10:00, 11:35pm; Sun, 10:55am, 12:20, 12:40, 4:10, 6:40, 7:35, 10:05, 11:35pm; Mon, 11:40am, 12:30, 3:20, 4:25, 8:05, 9:05, 11:25pm; Tue, 11:55am, 4:00, 4:50, 7:30, 8:10, 11:00, 11:40pm; Wed, 10:55am, 1:45, 3:50, 6:00, 9:35, 9:50, 10:55pm; Thu (12/19), 11:05am, 2:35, 7:00, 10:30, 11:15pm)
Kids' Camp: Lemmy Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events: Sat-Sun, 10:00am

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/326-3264. Call theatre for complete list of movies and showtimes.
Dallas Buyers Club (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 4:50, 10:20pm; Mon-Tue, 4:50, 10:20
Delivery Man (digital): Fri-Tue, 2:10, 7:40
Opera: Falstaff: Sat, 11:55pm; Wed, 6:30pm
Frozen (3-D): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, noon, 2:50, 6:10pm; Mon-Tue, 2:50, 6:10
Frozen (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 1:00, 2:00, 3:50, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00pm; Mon-Tue, 1:00, 2:00, 3:50, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D)": Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:30, 1:50, 4:20, 5:40, 8:10, 9:30pm; Mon-Tue, 12:30, 1:50, 4:20, 5:40, 8:10, 9:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 3:00, 6:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Tue, 3:00, 6:50
Homefront (digital): Fri-Mon, 9:10pm
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (digital): Fri, 9:50am, 11:40, 1:30, 3:20, 5:10, 7:10, 8:50, 10:30pm; Sat, 11:40am, 3:20, 5:10, 7:10, 8:50, 10:30pm; Sun, 9:50am, 11:40, 1:30, 3:20, 5:10, 7:10, 8:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Tue, 1:30, 3:20, 5:10, 7:10, 8:50
Out of the Furnace (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Tue, 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10
Thor: The Dark World (3-D): Fri-Sun, 9:50am, 9:20pm; Mon-Tue, 9:20pm
Thor: The Dark World (digital): Fri-Tue, 12:50, 3:40, 6:30
Tyler Perry's A Media Christmas (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20pm; Mon-Tue, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14 12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/326-3264.
Blue Jasmine (digital): Fri, 10:45am, 1:25, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35pm; Sat, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35; Sun, 10:45am, 1:25, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35pm; Mon, 1:25, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35
The Book Thief (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 3:00, 6:30, 9:45pm; Mon, 3:00, 6:30, 9:45
Dallas Buyers Club (digital): Fri-Mon, 12:40, 3:45, 6:55, 10:00
Delivery Man (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05pm; Mon, 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05
Opera: Falstaff: Sat, 11:55pm; Wed, 6:30pm
Frozen (3-D): Fri-Sun, 12:15, 3:15, 6:15; Mon, 12:25, 3:15, 6:15
Frozen (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25pm; Mon, 1:45, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D): Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:00, 9:20pm; Mon-Thru (12/19), 1:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:00, 9:20
"The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (digital)": 12:30, 4:20, 8:10
Homefront (digital): Fri-Mon, 9:15pm
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (digital): Fri, Sat, 11:00am, 12:50, 2:40, 4:30, 6:20, 8:00, 9:50pm; Sun, 10:45am, 12:50, 3:40, 6:20, 8:00, 9:50pm; Mon, 12:50, 2:40, 4:30, 6:20, 8:00, 9:50
Classics: It's a Wonderful Life: Sun, 2:00pm; Wed, 2:00, 7:00
Ballet: The Nutcracker: Tue, 7:00pm
***Out of the Furnace (digital)**: Fri-Mon, 12:55, 4:00, 7:05, 10:15
Philomena (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55pm; Mon, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55
Thor: The Dark World (3-D): Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 4:45, 7:30pm; Mon, 4:45, 7:30
Thor: The Dark World (digital): Fri-Mon, 1:50, 10:10

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK 2120 N. Mays, Round Rock, 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.
Carrie (digital): Fri, 1:00, 4:35, 7:00, 9:30, 11:50; Sat, 10:05am, 1:00, 3:45, 7:00, 9:30, 11:50pm; Sun, 10:05am, 1:00, 3:45, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Wed, 1:00, 3:45, 7:00, 9:30
Despicable Me 2 (digital): Fri, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00pm; Mon-Wed, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00
Don Jon (digital): Fri-Wed, 8:00, 10:15
Escape Plan (digital): Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10, 11:30; Sat, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10, 11:30pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Wed, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10, 11:30pm; Thu, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10pm; Fri-Mon, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10pm; Sat, 11:30am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00, 11:45pm; Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Wed, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00pm; Thu, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00pm; Fri-Sat, 2:30, 5:00; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:00pm; Mon-Wed, 2:30, 5:00

Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D): Fri-Wed, 1:15, 6:45
Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (digital): Fri, 4:00, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 4:00, 9:15pm; Mon-Wed, 4:00, 9:15
Turbo (3-D): Fri, 5:15, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 5:15, 10:05; Mon-Wed, 5:15, 10:05
Turbo (digital): Fri, 2:45, 7:45; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 2:45, 7:45pm; Mon-Wed, 2:45, 7:45

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, Round Rock, 800/326-3264. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium.
The Book Thief (digital): Fri-Tue, 10:00am, 1:10, 4:15, 7:20, 10:30pm
Dallas Buyers Club (digital): Fri-Mon, 10:45am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:40, 10:40pm; Tue, 10:45am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55pm
Delivery Man (digital): Fri-Tue, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm
Frozen (3-D): Fri-Tue, 11:35am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45pm
Frozen (digital): Fri-Tue, 10:30am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00pm
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D): 10:15am, 11:45, 1:50, 2:35, 3:20, 5:25, 7:00, 9:00, 9:45, 10:35pm
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (digital): 9:30am, 11:00, 1:05, 4:40, 6:10, 8:15pm
Homefront (digital): Fri-Tue, 10:25pm
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (digital): Fri-Tue, 10:50am, 11:40, 2:10, 3:00, 5:30, 6:20, 8:50, 9:40pm
Out of the Furnace (digital): Fri-Tue, 10:25am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55pm
Thor: The Dark World (3-D): Fri-Tue, 10:10am, 3:50, 9:30pm
Thor: The Dark World (digital): Fri-Tue, 1:00, 6:40, 9:30pm
Tyler Perry's A Media Christmas (digital): 10:20am, 1:20, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20pm

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. I-35, 800/326-3264. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium.
The Book Thief (digital): Fri, 1:20, 4:25, 7:35, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:20, 4:25, 7:35, 10:35pm; Mon-Tue, 1:20, 4:25, 7:35, 10:35
Delivery Man (digital): Fri, 1:10, 3:40, 6:15, 8:45; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:10, 3:40, 6:15, 8:45pm; Mon, 1:10, 3:40, 6:15, 8:45; Tue, 1:10, 3:40
Opera: Falstaff: Sat, 11:55pm; Wed, 6:30pm
Frozen (3-D): Fri, 10:25, 5:15, 8:05; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 2:25, 5:15, 8:05pm; Mon-Tue, 2:25, 5:15, 8:05
Frozen (digital): Fri, 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:40pm; Mon-Tue, 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:40
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D): Fri, 12:45, 2:00, 4:30, 5:45, 8:15, 9:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Tue, 12:45, 2:00, 4:30, 5:45, 8:15, 9:00, 9:30pm; Thu (12/19), 12:45, 2:00, 4:30, 5:45, 8:15, 9:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (digital): 3:15, 4:00, 7:00, 10:45; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 12:15, 3:15, 4:00, 7:00, 10:45pm; Mon, 3:15, 4:00, 7:00, 10:45; Thu (12/19), 3:15, 7:00, 10:45
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (digital): Fri, 1:50, 3:35, 5:10, 6:50, 8:40, 10:20; Sat, 1:50, 3:35, 5:10, 6:50, 8:40, 10:20; Sun, 10:15am, 12:45,

★ BLUE JASMINE

D: Woody Allen; with Cate Blanchett, Sally Hawkins, Alec Baldwin, Bobby Cannavale, Andrew Dice Clay, Louis C.K., Peter Sarsgaard, Michael Stuhlbarg, Tammy Blanchard. (PG-13, 98 min.)

The Woody Allen mojo is at work in his latest film, which features Cate Blanchett in an extraordinary, perfectly calibrated performance as the titular Jasmine, a Park Avenue matron brought low by the recent financial crisis. Neither a straight-out comedy nor drama, the film dabbles in both modes, creating an easygoing yet poignant observation of a woman and her mores. When Jasmine's financial whiz husband (Baldwin) meets a Bernie Madoff-like end, she decamps to Brooklyn (horrors!) before moving cross-country to crash with her lowbrow sister Ginger (Hawkins) in San Francisco. All the while, Jasmine ranges between unrealistic fantasies and harsh reality checks. The saga unfolds in a fairly charming fashion, but, by the film's abrupt conclusion, it seems as though Allen has bitten off more modern reality than he knows what to do with. Until that point, however, his observations about class differences and the shambles of life are spot-on. (08/09/2013)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan

THE BOOK THIEF

D: Brian Percival; with Sophie Nélisse, Emily Watson, Geoffrey Rush, Ben Schnetzer, Nico Liersch, Heike Makatsch, Kirsten Block; narrated by Roger Allam. (PG-13, 131 min.)

Based on Aussie author Markus Zusak's staggeringly popular 2005 bestseller, *The Book Thief* relates the intimate tale of one plucky young girl's coming of age-cum-survival quest amid the apocalyptic insanity of Nazi Germany. It's 1938 in a small village outside of Munich, when 11-year-old orphan Liesel Meminger (Nélisse) is shipped off to live with her German proxy parents: kindly, compassionate World War I veteran Hans Hubermann (Rush), who teaches our heroine to read and write, and his dour wife Rosa (Watson). As *Kristallnacht* arrives, a Jewish boxer, Max (Schnetzer), is secreted away in the family's basement, and Liesel joins the Hitler Youth. Percival's film chucks out the novel's crisp, occasionally sublime storytelling in favor of huge swaths of maudlin melodrama and countless cloying wartime clichés. Heaven this is assuredly not, and at over two hours long, *The Book Thief* will have you squirming in your seat, waiting for the torture to end. (11/29/2013)

★★ – Marc Savlov
Alamo Slaughter Lane, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE BROKEN CIRCLE BREAKDOWN

D: Felix Van Groeningen; with Johan Heldenbergh, Veerle Baetens, Nell Cattryse, Geert Van Rampelberg, Nils De Caster. (NR, 111 min., subtitled)

A powerful romantic adventure drives the heart of this over-the-top Belgian melodrama featuring a non-linear narrative that jumps around in time. Inherently cinematic, the film betrays little of its stage origins as it offers bits and snippets from the romance, marriage, and doomed family life of Didier Bontinck (Heldenbergh) and Elise Vandeveldt (Baetens). They begin with a lustful explosion, marry and have a child, Maybelle (Cattryse), but what unites them throughout is their involvement with American bluegrass music. Didier, bearded and often brooding, plays banjo in a band, which Elise, a working tattoo artist, eventually joins. *Broken Circle's* central themes of romance, family, and bluegrass are saturated in an overwhelming sense of dread, and ultimately, the film's many charms drown somewhat under crushingly sad events. Still, there is redemption in the chemistry between the two lead characters, their passions and complexity, as well as in the grace of the music. (12/06/2013)

★★★★ – Louis Black
Arbor

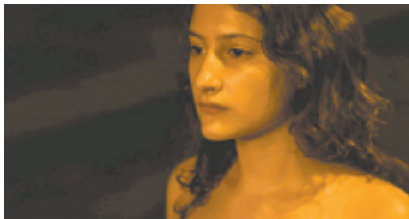
★ CAPTAIN PHILLIPS

D: Paul Greengrass; with Tom Hanks, Barkhad Abdi, Barkhad Abdirahman, Faysal Ahmed, Mahat M. Ali, Michael Chernus, Catherine Keener. (PG-13, 134 min.)

A kinetic showcase that whizzes by yet never loses track of its disparate elements, *Captain Phillips* ventures out to high seas and takes the audience along for a tense, claustrophobic ride. Based on true events from 2009 in which the U.S.-flagged cargo ship *Maersk Alabama* was captured for ransom by Somali pirates, the film also draws from Captain

Bastards

D: Claire Denis; with Vincent Lindon, Chiara Mastroianni, Julie Bataille, Michel Subor, Lola Créton. (2013, NR, 100 min.) **Austin Film Society: New Releases.** French filmmaker Claire Denis creates a contemporary film noir with this story about a jagged tangle of characters who are mixed up with one another through suicide, sexcapades, and secrets. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, Friday, 8pm; Sunday, 7pm; Tuesday, 7:30pm.



Richard Phillips' book on the experience, *A Captain's Duty: Somali Pirates, Navy SEALs, and Dangerous Days at Sea*. Although Phillips – played by Tom Hanks in a commanding, Oscar-courting turn – remains the heart of the film's story, director Paul Greengrass never loses sight of all the event's participants as cogs in a greater social machinery. With *Captain Phillips* we get a viable, multidimensional thriller whose conclusion is already known, and a character who reacts to circumstances rather than a personal, heroic code. And now, it's a story preserved in brine. (10/11/2013)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten

Tinseltown South

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

D: John Stephenson; with Hans Matheson, Samantha Barks, Lesley Manville, John Hannah, Susan Boyle, Sylvester McCoy, James Cosmo. (PG, 100 min.)

The Christmas Candle is as picturesque and beautiful as a holiday card, but equally two-dimensional. In a small, English countryside village, there is a recurring holiday miracle every 25 years in which a single candle produced in the local candlemaker's shop is blessed by an angel. The film is set in 1890 as a new minister, David Richmond (Matheson), arrives in the village. His own faith conflicted, Richmond believes miracles come more from how people help each other. In this he is supported by beautiful local skeptic and champion of change Emily Barstow (Barks). Based on bestselling author Max Lucado's novel, the film tackles questions of faith and belief, as well as the conflict between tradition and innovation. Well-made and quite beautiful, the film features a strong cast, but by the end it falls flat – tripped by its conflicting ambitions, overload of metaphoric events, and lack of powerful catharsis. (11/22/2013)

★★ – Louis Black
Metropolitan

★ DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

D: Jean-Marc Vallée; with Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner, Jared Leto, Denis O'Hare, Dallas Roberts, Steve Zahn, Griffin Dunne. (R, 117 min.)

Matthew McConaughey's career resurrection is in full bloom in the true-to-life *Dallas Buyers Club*. Electrician/rodeo rat/Texas good ol' boy Ron Woodroof (McConaughey) – a card-playing, substance-abusing, sexist, and homophobic jerk – is, at the outset in 1985, far from an appealing character. After doctors (Garner and O'Hare) tell him that he is HIV-positive and has only a month to live, Woodroof finds his way to Mexico, where an unlicensed American doctor (Dunne) fortifies him with a cocktail of vitamins and drugs. Soon he is smuggling the Mexican drugs across the border and seizes on the idea of a buyers club to redistribute the drugs to other Texans in need. Thus begins Woodroof's transformation from gonorrhea survivor, and from homophobe to rough-edged humanist. *Dallas Buyers Club* is an indelible story about one man's unwillingness to go gently into that good night, and the personal growth he experiences along the way. (11/15/2013)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Violet Crown

DELIVERY MAN

D: Ken Scott; with Vince Vaughn, Chris Pratt, Cobie Smulders, Andrzej Blumenfeld, Simon Delaney, Bobby Moynihan, Dave Patten, Adam Chanler-Berat, Britt Robertson, Sébastien René. (PG-13, 105 min.)

It's possible to look past the colorlessness of this new comedy – as well as the fact that it's an almost shot-for-shot remake of director Ken Scott's 2011 Québécois hit *Starbuck* – but there are some creepy and unexplored issues here that can't be brushed away. Vaughn plays notoriously underachieving, forty-something delivery driver David Wozniak, whose girlfriend Emma (Smulders) is pregnant but unsure he is ready to accept the rigors of parenthood. When news arrives that David is the father of 533 children due to his frequent sperm donations 20 years earlier, and that 142 of those offspring have filed a class-action suit to discover their paternity, he begins tracking down his kids to help each one as a guardian angel might. Just like the original film, *Delivery Man* ends with a gigantic group hug – only this one has the former slickster Vince Vaughn, now barrel-chested man-boy, at its center. (11/22/2013)

★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

DON JON

D: Joseph Gordon-Levitt; with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Scarlett Johansson, Julianne Moore, Tony Danza, Glenn Headly, Brie Larson, Rob Brown, Jeremy Luke. (R, 90 min.)

Joseph Gordon-Levitt stars as the titular character in his debut film as a writer/director. Like the character he plays, Gordon-Levitt's movie brims with a self-assurance that outstrips its actual worthiness. Jon (Gordon-Levitt) is an Italian-Catholic gym rat from New Jersey who prefers online pornography to sex with women. When Jon suddenly falls hard for Jersey girl Barbara (Johansson), there seems to be a chance that real life might supersede his online fantasies.

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SANTA VS. SATAN
Sun, Dec 15 @ Village
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Drafthouse Films
MS. 45
Fri, Dec 13, 15 @ Slaughter Lane
This 1981 revenge thriller follows a mute seamstress who, after falling victim to multiple assaults, ignites her one-woman homicidal rampage against New York City's male population.



The News
CITIZEN KANE
Mon, Dec 16 @ Ritz
When you do take the time to sit and watch CITIZEN KANE, your eyes widen, the hype fades away, and you realize that it really is the greatest film ever made. In 35mm!



Homo Arigato
UNZIPPED
Mon, Dec 16 @ Ritz
This documentary, delicately filmed in black and white by his then-boyfriend, follows Isaac Mizrahi as he reads his 1994 Fall/Winter collection.



Action Pack
**BAD SANTA
QUOTE-ALONG**
Tue, Dec 17 @ Slaughter Lane
Action Pack has pulled out all the stops, subtitled swear word after swear word so you can quote along with your favorite Christmas degenerates.

ALSO SCREENING

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Ms. 45

D: Abel Ferrara; with Zoë Lund. (1981, R, 80 min.) **Drathhouse Films Presents.** One of the best women's revenge movies of all time, *Ms. 45* stars Lund (aka Tamerlis, who is also the screenwriter of *Bad Lieutenant*) as a mute woman who, after being raped twice on her way home from work, takes matters into her own hands. Tarantino's bloody bride has nothing on *Ms. 45*'s avenging nun. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, Friday, 11pm; Sunday, 9:25pm.



But, alas, their future together is scuttled when Barbara sees the browser history on his laptop. Later on, Jon becomes involved with Esther (Moore), an older woman from whom he learns a little something about empathy. With its vividly drawn – albeit largely one-dimensional – character portraits, *Don Jon* makes the same points time and again, with no elaboration. It's little wonder that Jon can't break his habit. Even real life needs a money shot once in a while. (09/27/2013)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Movies 8

ENDER’S GAME

D: Gavin Hood; with Asa Butterfield, Harrison Ford, Hailee Steinfeld, Ben Kingsley, Abigail Breslin, Viola Davis, Aramis Knight, Suraj Partha, Moises Arias, Nonso Anozie. (PG-13, 114 min.)
Orson Scott Card's supposedly unfilmable 1985 sci-fi novel *Ender's Game* has finally arrived, with most of its themes intact but much of its story missing in action. The good news? It very nearly works. In the late 21st century, after a catastrophic attack on planet Earth by insectile aliens called Formics (or “Buggers”), the newly allied remnants of humanity have constructed a massive, orbiting “battle school” to house and train the next generation of mankind's laser-blasting saviors. The kick? They're just kids. Among them is Andrew “Ender” Wiggins (Butterfield, earnest and excellent), who, under the tutelage of Colonel Graff (Ford), hones his already genius-level tactical skills and is slowly revealed to be the best of the best. Hood's realization of Card's novel is a tightly constructed, thought-provoking meditation on adolescence trapped by permanent war footing. It's not Card's Game anymore, but it is about as close as we'll ever get. (11/01/2013)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

FREE BIRDS

D: Jimmy Hayward; with the voices of Woody Harrelson, Owen Wilson, Dan Folger, Amy Poehler, George Takei, Colm Meaney. (PG, 90 min.)
The very best animated films operate on any number of levels, appealing to the broadest of audiences, usually working in different ways for different age groups. *Free Birds* definitely entertained the many children at the screening I attended. Adults were a very different story. Reggie (Wilson), a turkey that just doesn't fit in, is selected by the U.S. president to be “liberated” because the first daughter falls for him. He ends up in the White House where he is grabbed by Jake (Harrelson), a member of the Turkey Liberation Front. Together, they travel back in time to the first Thanksgiving celebration via a secret government time machine. There they will remove turkey from the menu (even though, historically, turkey was not on that first menu), thereby liberating millions of birds over the centuries from the annual holiday slaughter. *Free Birds* falls flat, despite its good intentions, ideological cuteness, humorous polish, and skillful computer animation. (11/01/2013)

★★ – Louis Black
Lakeline, Metropolitan

FROZEN

D: Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee; with the voices of Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel, Jonathan Groff, Josh Gad, Santino Fontana, Alan Tudyk, Ciarán Hinds, Edie McClurg. (PG, 108 min.)
Like *The Little Mermaid*, this animated film mines Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales for material, discards the most brutish bits, and applies a heavy Disney top gloss. *Frozen* doesn't benefit from the above comparison (it ranks a distant second), but the film can count in its favor visual grandeur, two energetic young women as co-leads, and a couple of above-average plot twists. Screenwriter/co-director Jennifer Lee hooks an empowerment story around two fire-and-ice siblings – eldest Elsa (voiced by Menzel), who can control snow, and Anna (Bell), a blithe chatterbox who is unaware of her sister's powers until Elsa accidentally plunges their tiny Nordic kingdom into endless winter. When Elsa self-banishes to a hermetic life on top of a mountain, li'l sis chases after her, bringing along an anti-social ice merchant (Groff) and a sweet, dim, sentient snowman, whose spirit – pure of heart, noble in intention – carries throughout the film. (11/29/2013)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

☆ GRAVITY

D: Alfonso Cuarón; with Sandra Bullock, George Clooney; with the voice of Ed Harris. (PG-13, 91 min.)
In space, no one can hear you. Certainly not after a Russian satellite explodes and a mile-wide debris field pulverizes your space shuttle and scythes through your tether, severing all communication between you and what Carl Sagan called our “pale blue dot.” That's the dire situation that faces a pair of astronauts assigned to repair the Hubble Space Telescope, 600 kilometers up. Clooney is Matt Kowalski, the grizzled space veteran on his final mission and Bullock is Dr. Ryan Stone, on her first. As an example of one of the most rarefied genres of filmmaking – the two-character action-drama – *Gravity* stands above and apart from everything that's come before. This is a film spectacular enough to demand the full IMAX 3-D treatment. Anything less would cheapen the experience of Cuarón's vast and humbling depiction of two souls lost in the void, with no one to hear them but themselves. (10/04/2013)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Barton Creek Square, Gateway, iPic, Metropolitan

HOMEFRONT

D: Gary Fleder; with Jason Statham, James Franco, Winona Ryder, Rachelle Lefevre, Izabela Vidovic, Kate Bosworth, Omar Benson Miller, Chuck Zito. (R, 100 min.)
Held by journeyman director Fleder, and buoyed by a script (by Sylvester Stallone) based on Chuck Logan's *Phil Broker* series, *Homefront* is a throwback to an older style of action thriller. It's better than it has to be. Ex-DEA agent Broker (Statham) has retired with his daughter Maddy (Vidovic) to backwater Louisiana in search of the quiet life. Alas, that is not to be as he encounters a meth-crazed redneck (Bosworth), her evil, speed-manufacturing

Pastorela

D: Emilio Portes; with Joaquín Cosío, Carlos Cobos, Eduardo España, Dagoberto Gama, Héctor Jiménez. (2011, R, 88 min.) **Cine Las Americas.** In this Mexican comedy, a man who plays the devil in the town's nativity play is miffed when the new pastor recasts the role. (*)
@Alamo Village, Sunday, 4pm.



Meet Me in St. Louis

D: Vincente Minnelli; with Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, Mary Astor, Lucille Bremer. (1944, NR, 113 min.) **Holiday Film Series.** Set during the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904, this musical is heavy on the Americana but loaded with great songs and performances. Margaret O'Brien received a special Oscar for best performance by a child actor. (Double bill: *White Christmas*.) (*)
@Paramount, Sunday, 9:25pm; Monday, 7pm.



brother Gator (Franco) – and his goons. Following his sister's admonishment to “mess with their heads,” Gator discovers Broker's past involvement in the killing of an imprisoned kingpin's son. Using his drug-dealing and -using stripper girlfriend Sheryl Mott (Ryder) as a go-between, Gator offers the gang leader (Zito) Broker's location. *Homefront* is mostly predictable, but throws a few curveballs and ends up being surprisingly entertaining, if not at all outstanding. (11/29/2013)

★★★ – Louis Black
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

☆ THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE

D: Francis Lawrence; with Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Woody Harrelson, Sam Claflin, Jeffrey Wright, Jena Malone, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Liam Hemsworth, Donald Sutherland, Elizabeth Banks, Lenny Kravitz, Lynn Cohen, Stanley Tucci, Amanda Plummer, Toby Jones. (PG-13, 146 min.)
Hunger is a powerful motivating force, one that was made palpable in the first film adaptation of Suzanne Collins' bestselling, alternate-history, young-adult book series about a nation under the boot of a fascistic ruler. Innocent spitfire Katniss Everdeen (Lawrence) has become a reluctant symbol of rebellion since she bested the Hunger Games last time out, inflaming the nation with the realization that there is wiggle room under said boot. Make no mistake, however: The game may have changed, but she's still a pawn. When *Catching Fire* inevitably wends its way back to the Hunger Games' gladiatorial hellscape, the competition is culled from previous victors. The combat action ain't all that, but Lawrence is a star – as infinitely watchable picking her nose as picking off enemies with a bow and arrow (spoiler: She doesn't actually pick her nose). This latest film leaves us hungering for more, which means only that it's working. (11/22/2013)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

☆ KILL YOUR DARLINGS

D: John Krokidas; with Daniel Radcliffe, Dane DeHaan, Michael C. Hall, Jack Huston, Ben Foster, David Cross, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Elizabeth Olsen, John Cullum. (R, 104 min.)
“First thought, best thought,” is the maxim a young, aspiring poet by the name of Allen Ginsberg bandies about throughout this sweet and sour biopic about the collegiate years of the best and the Beatest. More love story than history lesson, *Kill Your Darlings* captures the fizzy frisson of the new, before it became shocking. It's a gas, a hoot, and a tragedy all in one. Played by former boy-wizard Radcliffe, Ginsberg is a closeted shy boy from Jersey who, once

accepted into the churning, hedonistic whirligig of mid-Forties Columbia University, falls in with a raw lot of mad, bad, and potentially dangerous-to-know types and emerges from the experience howling. Director Krokidas swerves all over the place – fittingly, given his subjects – and the cast is uniformly excellent. Above all, though, and what sets the film apart from other cinematic takes on the Beatified, is how much fun it is. (11/22/2013)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Violet Crown

LAST VEGAS

D: Jon Turteltaub; with Kevin Kline, Michael Douglas, Morgan Freeman, Robert De Niro, Mary Steenburgen, Jerry Ferrara, Romany Malco, Roger Bart. (PG-13, 105 min.)
Though apparently aspiring to be *The Hangover* for the Social Security set, *Last Vegas* exhibits fewer nutso antics and more concentration on character dynamics than that film. Four sixtysomething pals reunite for a weekend in Vegas after Billy (Douglas), the last remaining bachelor in their clan, pops the question to his girlfriend. His confederates include Archie (Freeman), who has been confined at home after suffering a stroke; Sam (Kline), who has grown bored of his early Florida retirement; and Paddy (De Niro), who has to be coaxed into the trip because he is still mad at Billy for not attending his wife's funeral. It's delightful to see these acting pros hamming it up – they look as though they're having a blast. But the same can't be said for the audience. *Last Vegas* is formulaic and predictable as they come, mindless fluff lent some extra weight by these acting power-houses. (11/01/2013)

★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

☆ LEE DANIELS’ THE BUTLER

D: Lee Daniels; with Forest Whitaker, Oprah Winfrey, David Oyelowo, Terrence Howard, Cuba Gooding Jr., Lenny Kravitz, John Cusack, James Marsden, Robin Williams, Alan Rickman, Liev Schreiber, Jane Fonda, Minka Kelly, Vanessa Redgrave, Clarence Williams III, Yaya Alafia, Elijah Kelley, Alex Pettyfer. (PG-13, 132 min.)
The sweep of history achieves a grandeur in *Lee Daniels' The Butler*, which displays an overarching perspective that's glued together by a personal narrative. The film is inspired by the experiences of Eugene Allen, an African-American who served as a White House butler – and eventual maître d' – under eight administrations. With *The Butler*, Lee Daniels has fictionalized Allen's life, enlisting powerhouse actor Forest Whitaker to play the butler, now dubbed Cecil Gaines, while also putting the last 90 years of African-American history on display. Though this broadness of scope occasionally carries over to the film's focus, *The Butler* is a remarkable and powerful film, providing a living tableau to those for whom recent history is as remote as ancient times. Boasting several stupendous performances – particularly from Whitaker, Winfrey, and Oyelowo – *Lee Daniels' The Butler* is a straightforward film that puts the recent past in our grasp. (08/16/2013)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South
Movies 8

☆ NEBRASKA

D: Alexander Payne; with Bruce Dern, Will Forte, June Squibb, Bob Odenkirk, Stacy Keach, Mary Louise Wilson, Rance Howard. (R, 115 min.)
Seventysomething Woody Grant (Dern) has the head-first, quick-step dodder of a toddler, dangerously fast and ever on the edge of a tumble. And a tumble is surely coming: It has to be, with Woody fixing all his hopes on the fantasy payout of a Publisher's Clearing House-like scam. His exhausted, crabby wife Kate (Squibb) has no patience for her husband, but son David (Forte) agrees to drive him from their home in Billings, Mont., to Lincoln, Neb., where Woody is convinced a \$1 million prize is waiting for him. A dry and exacting humorist whose films include *About Schmidt* and *Sideways*, Alexander Payne's funny, detached picture of Midwesterners is par for the course, but he gets great work out of his lead actors. SNL alum Forte is a surprising fount of melancholy and frustrated ambition, while Dern masterfully conveys the inner depths of a man who might not be all there. (11/29/2013)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor, Violet Crown

My Night at Maud's

D: Eric Rohmer; with Jean-Louis Trintignant, Françoise Fabian, Marie-Christine Barrault, Antoine Vitez. (1969, PG, 110 min.) **Cinema41.** Belonging to Rohmer's cycle of films called "Six Moral Tales," *My Night at Maud's* features Trintignant as a devout and uptight Catholic who becomes infatuated with a woman who is quite his opposite. As in all Rohmer's films, the characters discuss the issues involved in continual conversations. (*) @Salvage Vanguard Theater, Thursday (12/19), 8pm; BYOB.



OLDBOY

D: Spike Lee; with Josh Brolin, Elizabeth Olsen, Sharlto Copley, Samuel L. Jackson, Michael Imperioli, Pom Klementieff, James Ransone. (R, 104 min.)

Spike Lee's "reimagining" of South Korean auteur Park Chan-wook's 2003 film *Oldboy* retains much of that film's shuddery, visceral punch. (If you haven't seen the original, my advice would be to rent the Blu-ray, sit back, and then scrub your brain off of the wall behind you the next morning.) Brolin, as Joe Doucett – an alcoholic, thuggish businessman with anger issues galore and a death note on his oblivious head – gives it his all, full-on freaking out after his daughter is kidnapped and he is "vanished" for two decades before awakening in a box, shaved, impeccably tailored, and utterly at a loss. Is Lee's film worth your time? That depends on how much, or how little, you savored Park's original. Lee does right by the story, or as right as the MPAA allowed him, but like so many Americanized versions of Asian ground-breakers, I ultimately found myself asking "Why?" (11/29/2013)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Tinseltown South

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS

D: Thor Freudenthal; with Logan Lerman, Alexandra Daddario, Douglas Smith, Leven Rambin, Brandon T. Jackson, Jake Abel, Anthony Head, Stanley Tucci, Paloma Kwiatkowski. (PG, 106 min.)
This ham-fisted, teen-centric blend of *Harry Potter* and the infinitely more spellbinding *Jason and the Argonauts* comes within a cyclops' eyelash of being so bad it's almost (but not quite) good. The second film in an apparent franchise drawn from Rick Riordan's young-adult novels about the exploits of Poseidon's teenage offspring Percy (Lerman) and his pals – Grover the Satyr (Jackson) and Clarisse the something-or-other (Rambin) – *Sea of Monsters* puts the kids of Camp Half-Blood through the Hellenic wringer once again: Percy and his pals must secure the legendary Golden Fleece before Hermes' scheming son Luke (Abel) can use it to resurrect a world-destroying Titan. Comic moments fall flat throughout. It goes without saying that the 3-D adds nothing to the film, and while the digital effects are sometimes thrilling, any movie that relies on special effects over character development and a coherent plot is doomed from the get-go. (08/09/2013)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Movies 8

★ PHILOMENA

D: Stephen Frears; with Judi Dench, Steve Coogan, Sophie Kennedy Clark, Michelle Fairley, Barbara Jefford, Anna Maxwell Martin, Mare Winningham. (PG-13, 97 min.)

It's nice to see Stephen Frears (*High Fidelity*, *The Queen*) back on firmer dramatic ground with *Philomena*, a drama which derives its pleasures mostly from the study in contrasts between the film's two central characters. The story is based on a memoir by former BBC journalist Martin Sixsmith,

who, as the film begins, has just been axed from his job. Soon, Martin (Coogan) stumbles into a juicy story and finds a newspaper eager to foot the bill for his research. Accompanying him every step of the way is Philomena Lee (Dench), who wants to learn what happened to her son who was taken from her when she gave birth in a convent 50 years ago. They definitely make for an odd pair, although they remain united through their circuitous search for answers. For the viewer, however, solving the mystery is not nearly as engrossing as watching the actors' pas de deux. (11/29/2013)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, Violet Crown

★ PRISONERS

D: Denis Villeneuve; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Hugh Jackman, Viola Davis, Paul Dano, Melissa Leo, Maria Bello, Terrence Howard. (R, 153 min.)

In his English language debut, Québécois director and Oscar nominee Denis Villeneuve (*Incendies*) proves there's still a little wiggle room in popcorn block-busted Hollywood to make a dark, brooding, uplifting downer of a film. It's Thanksgiving in suburban Pennsylvania when two little girls – the daughters of Keller and Grace Dover (Jackman and Bello) and Franklin and Nancy Birch (Howard and Davis) – go missing. Gyllenhaal is the twitchy, blinking Detective Loki, who is called in to investigate, and Dano plays a mysterious RV-driving drifter who is quickly nabbed as the obvious suspect. But few things are what they at first seem. As the mental torture caused by the girls' disappearance shifts into grim and potentially unstable actions, the film stutters all over the human moral compass. A bleak police procedural stoked by the fires of obsession and regret, *Prisoners* is a rough, gritty ride, but one well worth taking. (09/27/2013)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Tinseltown South

THOR: THE DARK WORLD

D: Alan Taylor; with Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Tom Hiddleston, Anthony Hopkins, Christopher Eccleston, Idris Elba, Kat Dennings, Stellan Skarsgård, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, Rene Russo, Chris O'Dowd. (PG-13, 111 min.)

How's your appetite for lore? It will surely be tested in this latest installment of the Marvel cinematic universe, which presents some ponderous business about truculent elves, nasty superwarriors christened the Kursed, and intimations of a coming "eternal night." This sequel to 2011's *Thor* warms to the touch slowly, with Thor (Hemsworth) moping around Asgard and casting long looks at Earth, where his estranged love Jane Foster (Portman) is still doing her astrophysicist thing. But once Jane discovers a portal between realms, Thor swoops into her orbit, bad penny/bonny bad-die Loki (Hiddleston) enters the fray, and the film finds its forward thrust, confidently alternating beats between the solemn, the swashbuckling, and sworn to fealty to the Marvel master plan. Smartly dissociating itself from the recent rash of long-winded and self-serious superhero spectacles, *The Dark World* instead humbly lobs this open invitation: *Let's have some fun, shall we?* And so we did. (11/08/2013)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

also playing Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

CARRIE

★★★ Movies 8

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2

★★ Metropolitan

DESPICABLE ME 2

★★★ Movies 8

TURBO

D: David Soren; with the voices of Ryan Reynolds, Paul Giamatti, Michael Peña, Luis Guzman, Bill Hader, Snoop Dogg, Maya Rudolph, Ben Schwartz, Richard Jenkins, Ken Jeong, Michelle Rodriguez, Samuel L. Jackson, Michael Patrick Bell. (PG, 96 min.)

"No dream is too big, no dreamer too small," proclaims race-car driver Guy Gagné (voiced by Hader) in this animated movie. Those words are taken to heart by Turbo (voiced by Reynolds), a suburban garden snail who dreams of winning the Indianapolis 500. An impossible dream, of course ... but we're in the world of cartoons, so when Turbo gets sucked into the manifold of a car engaged in a street race, the nitrous fumes magically transform the snail into a racing machine. After running away from home, Turbo is rescued by Tito (Peña), a man who races snails for entertainment, and, together, they get a shot at accomplishing their dreams. The plot of this latest DreamWorks Animation release isn't terribly original, but it's serviceable, and the images are bright and lively. By the time *Turbo* reaches the finish line, it joins the winner's circle without quite nabbing the trophy. (07/19/2013)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Movies 8

★ 12 YEARS A SLAVE

D: Steve McQueen; with Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael Fassbender, Lupita Nyong'o, Benedict Cumberbatch, Adepero Oduye, Sarah Paulson, Paul Dano, Paul Giamatti, Alfre Woodard, Garret Dillahunt, Brad Pitt. (R, 133 min.)

Brutal yet elegant, *12 Years a Slave* is a beautifully rendered punch to the gut about the most shameful chapter in American history. Based on the 1853 memoir of Solomon Northup – an educated freeman from Saratoga, New York, who endured a nightmare of involuntary servitude – this is no Tarantino revenge fantasy. Embracing a transcendent authenticity, *12 Years a Slave*'s refusal to sentimentalize or manipulate bestows the film with a graceful dignity, as personified in Ejiofor's mournful performance as a man of constant sorrow. Fassbender, too, is a revelation as Northup's monstrous, pathetic master, Edwin Epps, and newcomer Nyong'o exhibits a masterful balance of strength and frailty as the waifish female slave Patsey. Painterly and evocative, with a penchant for long, unflinching tableaux, director McQueen tackles profound despair, heartbreak, and horror ... and yet you can't look away. *12 Years a Slave* is a movie for the ages. Absolutely remarkable. (11/01/2013)

★★★★★ – Steve Davis
Arbor, Tinseltown North, Violet Crown

★ 20 FEET FROM STARDOM

D: Morgan Neville. (PG-13, 90 min.)
20 Feet From Stardom is an extended hosanna to an undersung artist, the backup singer, and what a joyful noise it makes. To chart the creative contributions of so-often-anonymous session vocalists, longtime music-doc director Morgan Neville collared some big names to sit for his camera. But it's the nonhousehold names – powerhouse vocalists like Darlene Love and Merry Clayton – that hold our attention. Crap pay and chronic lack of credit dogged all the backup singers featured here, while drugs were the special undoing of some. This film doesn't shy away from the harder truths of the industry, but it goes down easily, and is stylishly assembled, spryly executed, and satisfyingly arced to end in triumph. What's so great, and so feel-good, about *20 Feet From Stardom* is that it both celebrates the unheralded individual and uplifts the special aural alchemy that's created when many voices blend together as one. (07/05/2013)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Barton Creek Square

ESCAPE PLAN

★★ Movies 8

INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 2

★ Movies 8

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<p>Galaxy Theatres presents "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" in DBox Motion Seats. Tickets on sale in Theater and Online.</p>
<p>The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) DBox Motion Seating Fri. - Thu. 11:00 2:30 6:00 9:30 The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 12:00 2:30 3:30 6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30 11:45 Sun. - Tue. 11:00 12:00 2:30 3:30 6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30 Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG-13) Wed. & Thu. 11:05 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00 The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 11:30 3:00 6:30 10:00 The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) Wed. & Thu. 11:00 12:00 2:30 3:30 6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30 Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:20 11:45 12:00 1:50 2:15 2:20 4:15 4:45 5:00 6:45 7:15 7:25 9:15 9:45 11:30 Sun. - Tue. 11:20 11:45 12:00 1:50 2:15 2:20 4:15 4:45 5:00 6:45 7:15 7:25 9:15 9:45 9:55 Out of the Furnace (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:45 2:00 4:30 7:05 9:35 11:59 Sun. - Tue. 11:45 2:00 4:30 7:05 9:35 Frozen (PG) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 1:30 2:25 4:15 4:45 6:50 7:10 9:25 9:45 11:59 Sun. - Tue. 12:05 1:30 2:25 4:15 4:45 6:50 7:10 9:25 9:45 The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) Fri. - Tue. 12:30 3:50 7:15 10:15</p>
<p>Parents: Remember that after 6pm there are no children under 6 allowed into R Rated films</p>
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SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

THURSDAY 12

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 9:40pm.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) *D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell. (PG, 95 min.)* **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 6:10pm.

The Hobbit Double Feature *D: Peter Jackson.* Set the mood with *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* and follow it with a midnight screening of *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug.* @Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Lakeline, Westgate, 8:30pm; Alamo Ritz, Alamo Village, 8:45pm; Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, 9pm.

★ **The Last Bus Home (1997)** *D: Johnny Gogan; with Annie Ryan, Brian F. O'Byrne. (NR, 93 min.)* **Austin Film Society: The First Wave of Irish Cinema.** Two young punks meet on the day the pope comes to Dublin in 1979 and afterward form a band. Three years later, the successful band's continuation faces familiar conflicts. Also screening is *If I Should Fall From Grace: The Shane Macgowan Story.* @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 7:30pm.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989) *D: Jeremiah S. Chechik; with Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid. (PG-13, 97 min.)* Special menu. @Flix Brewhouse, 7:30pm.

The Wizard of Oz 3-D (2013) *D: Victor Fleming; with Judy Garland, Frank Morgan, Ray Bolger, Bert Lahr, Jack Haley, Billie Burke, Margaret Hamilton. (PG, 101 min.)* (*) @Movies 8, 4:30, 9:40.

The Wizard of Oz (1939) *D: Victor Fleming; with Judy Garland. (G, 101 min.)* Follow the yellow brick road. (*) @Movies 8, 1:30, 7:15.

SPACES

End-of-Semester Screenings UT Radio-Television-Film Department. View the results of UT students' hard work this semester. Each class has its own screening slot, and the screenings culminate with a Digital Demo Day on Thursday, Dec. 12 and the graduate student production on Saturday, Dec. 15. For the complete schedule, go to www.rtf.utexas.edu/events/end-semester-screenings-fall-2013. @CMB Studio 4B (UT campus), CMB Studio 4D (UT campus), Belo Auditorium (BMC 2.106, UT campus), Student Activity Center Auditorium (UT campus), 3, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6, 6:30; free.

Farm-City, State (2013) *D: David Barrow. (NR, 88 min.)* **Edible Austin and Wheatville Co-op.** This locally filmed documentary focuses on urban farms and food education. The director will be in attendance for a Q&A and the event benefits Sustainable Food Center and Urban Roots. @Blanton Museum Auditorium (on the UT campus), 7pm; free.

Fullmetal Alchemist: The Movie – Conqueror of Shamballa Austin Public Library: Anime Club. Japanese television anime. @Carver Branch Library, 5pm.

Gremlins (1984) *D: Joe Dante; with Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates, Hoyt Axton. (PG, 106 min.)* **Blue Starlite Drive-In.** Plus Charlie Brown preshow. (*) @Austin Studios, 8pm.

“Hard Time” (2013) *D: Ron Harpelle. (NR, 40 min.)* The personal evolution of Robert Hillary King, the only freed member of the Angola Three, is displayed in this documentary. King and the film's director will be on hand for a discussion after the film. @Treasure City Thrift, 8pm.

FRIDAY 13

★ **Bastards (2013)** See p.67.

Christmas Show Master Pancake. This seasonal show features the Master Pancake regulars and clips from favorite holiday TV specials and other weird holiday programs. @Alamo Ritz, 7:15, 10.

★ **Ms. 45 (1981)** See p.68.

Ticket to Ride (2013) *D: Max Bervy.* Skiers and snowboarders travel to some of the most exotic and sought-after destinations in the world in Warren Miller Entertainment's 64th annual ski film. @Paramount, 8pm.

Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party Action Pack. @Alamo Lakeline, 10pm.

SPACES

A Christmas Story and Gremlins Blue Starlite Drive-In: Double Feature. @Austin Studios, 7:30pm.

End-of-Semester Screenings UT Radio-Television-Film Department. @CMB Studio 4B (UT campus), CMB Studio 4D (UT campus), Belo Auditorium (BMC 2.106, UT campus), Student Activity Center Auditorium (UT campus), 5, 7; free. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

SATURDAY 14

Christmas Show Master Pancake. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10. (See Friday.)

Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas (1977) *D: Jim Henson; with the voices of Jim Henson, Jerry Nelson, Frank Oz, Marilyn Sokol. (NR, 48 min.)* **Alamo Kids' Club.** Kermit the Frog hosts this classic Muppet musical Christmas tale with original songs from master tunesmith Paul Williams. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 12:30pm.

Falstaff (2013) (NR, 200 min.) **Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD.** James Levine conducts Robert Carsen's acclaimed production, the first new Met *Falstaff* since 1964. Ambrogio Maestri sings the role of the title character. It will be presented live on Saturday, and be followed by an encore presentation on Wednesday evening. @Tinseltown North, Arbor, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, 11:55pm.

Home Alone (1990) *D: Chris Columbus; with Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, John Candy, Daniel Stern. (PG, 102 min.)* **Classics.** Breakfast in your pajamas. (*) @Flix Brewhouse, 10:30am.

★ **Hugo (2011)** *D: Martin Scorsese; with Asa Butterfield, Ben Kingsley, Sacha Baron Cohen, Chloë Grace Moretz. (PG, 126 min.)* **Alamo Kids' Camp.** Free. (*) @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10am.

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) *D: Jennifer Yuh; with the voices of Jack Black, Angelina Jolie, Gary Oldman, Dustin Hoffman. (PG, 90 min.)* **Alamo Kids' Camp.** Free. (*) @Alamo Village, 9:45am.

★ **Laurel & Hardy's Festival of Lafts** four of Laurel & Hardy's finest two-reelers will be presented in 16mm: “Big Business,” “Two Tars,” “Liberty,” and “Perfect Day.” The silent shorts will feature a live score on hand-cranked, turn-of-the-century phonographs by DJ Amelia Foxtrot of the Austin Phonograph Company. @Alamo Ritz, 2:30pm.

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) *D: Brad Silberling; with Jim Carrey, Meryl Streep, Jude Law. (PG, 113 min.)* **Alamo Kids' Camp.** Free. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 10am.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) (R, 95 min.) Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the “Time Warp” thing live for more than three decades. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Village, 12mid.

Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party Action Pack. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10:15pm; Alamo Village, 10:30pm. (See Friday.)

★ **White Christmas (1954)** *D: Michael Curtiz; with Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, Vera-Ellen. (NR, 120 min.)* **Classics.** Whether you're a seasoned regular or a newbie, this Irving Berlin holiday classic about four entertainers falling in love and saving a Vermont inn is essential seasonal froth. @iPic, 9:45am, 12:45pm.

★ **White Reindeer (2013)** *D: Zach Clark; with Anna Margaret Hollyman, Laura Lemar-Goldsborough, Lydia Hyslop, Joe Swanberg, Chris Doubek. (NR, 82 min.)* **Austin Film Society: New Releases.** In this dark comedy, a woman struggles to put her life back together during a sad, strange Christmastime in suburban Virginia. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 8pm.

SPACES

End-of-Semester Screenings UT Radio-Television-Film Department. @CMB Studio 4B (UT campus), CMB Studio 4D (UT campus), Belo Auditorium (BMC 2.106, UT campus), Student Activity Center Auditorium (UT campus), 4, 6, 8; free. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

SUNDAY 15

★ **Bastards (2013)** See p.67.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

Home Alone (1990) All-You-Can-Eat Cheese Pizza Party. @Alamo Ritz, 7:15pm. (See Saturday.)

★ **Hugo (2011)** Alamo Kids' Camp. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 9:30am. (See Saturday.)

★ **It's a Wonderful Life (1946)** *D: Frank Capra; with James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore. (NR, 129 min.)* (*) @Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, 2pm.

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) Alamo Kids' Camp. @Alamo Village, 9:30am. (See Saturday.)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) Alamo Kids' Camp. @Alamo Lakeline, 10am. (See Saturday.)

Little Women (1994) *D: Gillian Armstrong; with Winona Ryder. (PG, 115 min.)* **Afternoon Tea.** Louisa May Alcott's March sisters remain resonant in a new season. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 4pm.

★ **Meet Me in St. Louis (1944)** See p.68.

★ **Ms. 45 (1981)** See p.68.

★ **Pastorela (2011)** See p.68.

TV Night ATX Television Festival. Holiday episodes from four classic sitcoms. @Alamo Ritz, 9:40pm.

★ **White Christmas (1954) Classics.** @iPic, 9:45am, 12:45pm; Paramount, 7pm. (See Saturday.)

SPACES

End-of-Semester Screenings UT Radio-Television-Film Department. @CMB Studio 4B (UT campus), CMB Studio 4D (UT campus), Belo Auditorium (BMC 2.106, UT campus), Student Activity Center Auditorium (UT campus), 3, 7; free. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

Hecho en México (Made in Mexico) (2011) *D: Duncan Bridgeman. (R, 98 min.)* **Tarde de Documental.** This documentary shines a light on some of contemporary Mexico's most iconic artists and performers. @EsquinaTango, 6:30pm.

MONDAY 16

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998) (R, 117 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm.

★ **Citizen Kane (1941)** *D: Orson Welles; with Welles, Joseph Cotten. (NR, 119 min.)* **The News in Cinema.** Who knows if *Citizen Kane* is really the best movie ever made, as its reputation would have us believe? But this film sure ranks up there, and this Welles wunderkind classic deserves to be experienced on the big screen. @Alamo Ritz, 7:20pm.

IMAX SEE SHOWTIMES FOR SCHEDULE

Flight of the Butterflies (2012) *D: Mike Slee; with Gordon Pinsent, Patricia Phillips. (NR, 44 min.)* The life cycle of a monarch butterfly and its long-distance migration from Canada to Central Mexico is captured in this 3-D nature documentary that also focuses on the decades of fieldwork conducted by Canadian scientist Fred Urquhart.

Great White Shark (2013) *D: Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas; narrated by Bill Nighy. (NR, 40 min.)* This 3-D film explores the great white's place in our imaginationsand fears, while concentrating on key aggregation points in the waters off Mexico, South Africa, Los Angeles, and New Zealand.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Texas is shown to be a land broad enough to produce everything from grapefruit to microchips.

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) *D: Peter Jackson; with Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman. (PG-13, 161 min.)* Review on p.64. (*).

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (2013) *D: Francis Lawrence; with Jennifer Lawrence. (PG-13, 146 min.)* Review on p.68. Last day Thursday (12/12) (*).

Titans of the Ice Age (2013) *D: David Clark; narrated by Christopher Plummer. (NR, 45 min.)* Computer-generated imagery brings to life this mysterious era of the Ice Age.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Lakeline, 7pm; Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

★ **Meet Me in St. Louis (1944)** See p.68.

Unzipped (1995) *D: Douglas Kieve. (R, 73 min.)* **Homo Arigato!** Fashion photographer Douglas Kieve turns his camera on designer Isaac Mizrahi for an intriguing and often funny look into the making of a seasonal fashion collection. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

★ **White Christmas (1954)** Holiday Film Series. @Paramount, 9:20pm. (See Saturday.)

SPACES

★ **Ernie Kovacs Austin Film Society: History of Television.** Guest programmer Zack Carlson presents an evening of the pioneering television genius' comedy work. @Austin Studios Screening Room, 8pm.

The Polar Express (2004) *D: Robert Zemeckis; with Tom Hanks. (G, 100 min.)* **Austin Public Library: Family Movie Night.** Free. (*) @Cepeda Branch Library, 4pm.

TUESDAY 17

Bad Santa Quote-Along (2003) *D: Terry Zwigoff; with Billy Bob Thornton, Tony Cox. (R, 98 min.)* **Action Pack.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm.

★ **Bastards (2013)** See p.67.

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) *D: Peter Jackson; with Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman. (PG-13, 166 min.)* In 2-D. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 3:45pm.

Love Actually (2003) *D: Richard Curtis; with Hugh Grant, Emma Thompson. (R, 135 min.)* **Girlie Night.** This merry skein of loves lost and found is set in holiday-season London. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

The Nutcracker (2013) (NR, 130 min.) **The Royal Opera House Ballet Series.** The Royal Ballet of London performs the Christmastime classic, featuring the choreography of Peter Wright. @Arbor, Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Hill Country Galleria, 7pm.

Silent Night, Deadly Night: Part 2 (1987) *D: Lee Harry; with Eric Freeman. (R, 88 min.)* **Terror Tuesday.** The brother of the killer in *Part 1* is back for revenge. @Alamo Ritz, 10:40pm.

WEDNESDAY 18

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

Falstaff (2013) **Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD.** @Tinseltown North, Arbor, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, 6:30pm. (See Saturday.)

Gremlins (1984) Austin Horror Society. @Alamo Lakeline, 9pm. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

★ **In the Heat of the Night (1967)** *D: Norman Jewison; with Sidney Poitier, Rod Steiger, Warren Oates. (NR, 109 min.)* **Cinema Club.** A black man (Poitier) is falsely arrested for murder in a racist Southern town. But he turns out to a prominent Philadelphia attorney, and once released he and the bigoted sheriff (Steiger) learn to work together to solve the crime. Austin Film Society programmer (and Cinema Club founder) Lars Nilsen, will introduce the film, and audience discussion will follow the screening. @Alamo Ritz, 7:15pm.

★ **It's a Wonderful Life (1946)** @Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, 2, 7. (See Sunday.)

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. The deadline for the Dec. 27 issue is Monday, Dec. 16. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 512/458-6910; or email.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

The Silent Partner (1978) D: Daryl Duke; with Elliott Gould, Christopher Plummer, Susannah York. (R, 106 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** In this clever crime drama, adapted for the screen by Curtis Hanson, a bank teller outwits a robber, which then causes a cascade of complications. @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

SPACES

Die Hard (1988) D: John McTiernan; with Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman, Bonnie Bedelia. (R, 131 min.) **Humpday Video Club.** Free. (*) @Spider House Ballroom, 8pm.

THURSDAY 19

★ **Angel (1982)** D: Neil Jordan; with Stephen Rea, Veronica Quilligan. (R, 92 min.) **Austin Film Society: The First Wave of Irish Cinema.** In Neil Jordan's first feature film as a director, a Northern Ireland musician is increasingly drawn into a mysterious and violent underworld after witnessing two murders. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 7:30pm.

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 6:50pm. (See Thursday, 12/12.)

SPACES

★ **The Headless Woman (2008)** D: Lucrecia Martel; with Maria Onetto, Claudia Cantero, César Bordón. (NR, 87 min.) **Blanton's Third Thursday.** In this thoughtful Argentine movie, a woman loses her wits after hitting something while driving. Afterward, a seeming amnesia sets in, followed by the character's dislocation in her own skin. The film is presented in conjunction with the museum's rotation of works by Doris Salcedo. Jean Anne Lauer will speak after the film about director Lucrecia Martel and contemporary Argentine cinema. @Blanton Museum Auditorium (on the UT campus), 6pm.

★ **My Night at Maud's (1969)** See p.69.

Warm Bodies (2013) D: Jonathan Levine; with Nicholas Hoult. (PG-13, 98 min.) **Austin Public Library: Based on Books.** Free. (*) @Yarborough Branch Library, 6:30pm.

OFFSCREEN

Austin FilmWorks: The Film Mind This 12-week course covering **advanced cinematography and directing**, taught by filmmaker **Steve Mims**, blends an in-depth examination of current large-sensor digital cinematography with classic filmmaking techniques. Register now for the spring 2014 schedule. See website for details. www.austinfilmworks.com.

Faces of Austin: Shorts Competition The city of Austin invites Austin-area filmmakers to submit films of less than 10 minutes' length – films shot in Austin or highlighting an Austin topic or organization. Both fiction and nonfiction works are acceptable. Selected films will have a premiere screening during the SXSW Film Conference Community Screenings. See website for details and application. Deadline: Jan. 21, 2014. www.austintexas.gov/facesofaustin.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a surround-sound system, and supports Super 35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Accessibility, restrooms – the works. It also has a break room suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 512/322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

The Screenplay Workshop: Winter Registration Screenwriting Fundamentals Everything you must know to write a screenplay. *Tuesdays, Jan. 7-Feb. 4, 7-9:30pm; Saturdays, Jan. 11-Feb. 8, 1:30-4pm. \$225. Screenwriters Master Class* Write a feature-length screenplay in 10 weeks. *Tuesdays, Jan. 7-Mar. 11, 7-9:30pm; Saturdays, Jan. 11-Mar. 15, 1:30-4pm. \$395. Private Screenwriting Coaching and Consultation, Skype Group Video Workshop* also available. See website for details. www.thescreenplayworkshop.org.

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38th Annual Armadillo Christmas Bazaar



Perhaps my single biggest Austin music regret – besides not having seen Townes Van Zandt more – remains missing the final Texana Dames performance closing down the Armadillo Christmas Bazaar in 2011. This year, too, I'm traveling when a pair of those Dames sit in with **Bill Kirchen** on Christmas Eve. Legacy acts return, of course – **Marcia Ball**, **Ray Wylie Hubbard**, **Carolyn Wonderland** – but greet the new breed as well, like Delbert's kid **Clay McClinton** and locals I consider Butch & Sundance's Hole in the Wall gang, **Sons of Fathers**. Big draws (**Shinyribs**), big blues (**Peterson Brothers**), mad roots chemistry (**Warren Hood Band**) – all laced among local artisans. Austin's soundtrack bonds to the Bazaar's communal spirit. No future holiday regrets, yo. Christmas miracles only.

– Raoul Hernandez

TUESDAY, DEC. 17

Noon: Peterson Brothers Band
3:30: Emily Bell & John Evans
8: The Eggmen

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18

Noon: Clay McClinton
3:30: Patricia Vonne
8: Ray Wylie Hubbard

THURSDAY, DEC. 19

Noon: Sarah Pierce
3:30: Carper Family
8: Shinyribs

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

Noon: Suzanna Choffel
3:30: Eliza Gilkyson
8: Jimmy LaFave

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

Noon: Shelley King Band
3:30: Carolyn Wonderland
8: Alpha Rev

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

Noon: Sons of Fathers
3:30: Marcia Ball, with Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & Christine Albert
8: Band of Heathens

MONDAY, DEC. 23

Noon: Terri Hendrix
3:30: Hot Club of Cowtown
8: Warren Hood Band

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

Noon: Albert & Gage
3:30: Jitterbug Vipers
8: Bill Kirchen & Friends, with Conni & Charlene Hancock

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL HOLIDAY DANCE

Broken Spoke, Friday 13

End-of-year performances evoke as much sentiment as merriment, even more so when it's Asleep at the Wheel driving. Expect two sets packed with their signature Texas swing, maybe some seasonal songs, and perhaps a few tunes from bandleader Ray Benson, who has a solo album due early next year. Simply watching Benson navigate the Spoke's notoriously low ceiling is worthy of a few ho ho hos.

– Margaret Moser

MIGOS

Infest, Friday 13

Atlanta trap music, made popular by cosigners Gucci Mane, T.I., and Waka Flocka Flame, got a snow-white sniff of the new style this year when rap trio Migos became the coldest thing to break out of the Dirty Dirty since Coca-Cola Classic. Last year's onslaught of kitschy mixtapes, highlighted by June's *Young Rich Niggas* and subsequent *No Label*, proves multisyllable-challenged threesome Quavo, Takeoff, and Offset got plenty of juice in the "Hit Juug."

– Chase Hoffberger

COMBICHRIST

Elysium, Saturday 14

Aggro dance metal by Combichrist proudly betrays its origins: the extreme sounds of leader Andy LePegua's Norwegian homeland, and the club-ready rhythms of his Atlanta homebase. Latest LP *No Redemption* soundtracks the video game *DmC: Devil May Cry*, a thumping groove-grind perfect for hack & slash visuals. Unabashed San Antonio disciples Souless Affection induce seizures first.

– Michael Toland

CAT POWER

Antone's, Saturday 14

As counterintuitive as winter music tours are – bad weather and travel rarely end well – Chan Marshall only routed five dates: three in Texas. Consider this, then, C3 Presents' more than suitable substitute for its Sufjan Stevens Christmas show, which loaded into Emo's this time last year. The feline chanteuse's ninth disc, 2012's *Sun*, remains her most recent, with the treat here being that she appears solo in the intimate confines of Antone's. L.A. experimentalist Nico Turner opens.

– Raoul Hernandez

KELLY WILLIS & BRUCE ROBISON

Paramount Theatre, Saturday 14

Great year for Mr. & Mrs. Robison, and they wrap up it up in grand style with their annual Christmas show. Their first album as a duo, *Cheater's Game*, topped the Americana chart for 12 straight weeks, while landing on Top 10 lists nationwide. With original music

sprinkled among showstoppers from the holiday canon, it's a great way to get into the spirit, a night filled with warmth and familial love. Dale Watson, too.

– Jim Caligiuri

MY EDUCATION VINYL RELEASE

Red 7, Saturday 14

Red vinyl siren 5 Popes, newly remastered 2004 debut LP from My Education, matches the controlled blasts of Explosions in the Sky on the opener, "Concentration Waltz," then cuts glass on the searing "Crime Story." The local instrumentalists have also reassembled the cream of Austin's sound mystics from that era: 7% Solution, Winslow, Experimental Aircraft, A Tiger Named Lovesick, the Swells, and Cue. This is what a lava lamp sounds like.

– Raoul Hernandez

DAR WILLIAMS

One World Theatre, Sunday 15

Nearly 20 years have passed since Dar Williams set the folk world on its ear with her honest and evocative songwriting on *The Honesty Room*. The New Yorker has been scarce in Central Texas, but she returns with one of her best albums, *In the Time of Gods*, which takes its inspiration from Greek mythology but relates to our troubled times. Only a writer with Williams' perceptiveness and potency could make that leap and make it resonate. See austinchronicle.com for more.

– Jim Caligiuri

PAPER CUTS: WILD BILL'S HONKY TONK HOLIDAZE

Palm Door, Tuesday 17

Who says Santa's not real? He just got to Texas last week, and he's hammered and scheming fresh off a nasty divorce from the Missus. Thanks to inventive and eternally off-kilter South Austin honky-tonker Wild Bill, ATX now claims a new Christmas Carol, one rife with the dysfunction, madness, and heavy drinking that should typify your holidays anyway. RSVP for the *Chronicle's* free local music series at austinchronicle.com/paper-cuts.

– Chase Hoffberger

POWER TRIP, WINDHAND

Red 7, Tuesday 17

Dallas' Power Trip released one of the more impressive debuts of 2013, its *Manifest Decimation* on Southern Lord resetting the bar on powerhouse thrash. Chris Ulsh pulls double duty, also swirling his locks with hometown thrash deity Mammoth Grinder, who had a good year with *Underworlds*. Municipal Waste offshoot Iron Reagan relives its Housecore Horror triumph with cheeky metallpunk. Richmond, Va.'s Windhand is the odd band out here, yet its gracefully melodic but ribcage-crushing doom (see Relapse Records' *Soma*) will dissolve drywall.

– Michael Toland

THE MAVERICKS

Gruene Hall, Wednesday 18 & Thursday 19

The newly resurgent kings of Roy Orbison-tinged Tex-Mex country take over Central Texas' premiere dance hall for two nights of musical derring-do. As witnessed at ACL Fest this year, the reanimated Mavericks have morphed into a southern Los Lobos in their second act, something they were evolving into just before their long hiatus of the last decade. January's *In Time* hops stylistic and genre boundaries effortlessly, absorbing them into their cross-cultural gumbo with ease.

– Tim Stegall

soundcheck

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

BUTCH HANCOCK

Saxon Pub, Friday 13

Flatlander and son, 9pm.

REO SPEEDWAGON

ACL Live at the Moody Theater, Friday 13

Kevin Cronin still boosts *Hi Infidelity*. French ATX transplants the Wyldz open.

INVINCIBLE CZARS NUTCRACKER SUITE

Central Market North, Saturday 14

Tchaikovsky gone prog, 6:30pm – free, local, kid-friendly.

WOOD BROTHERS, SETH WALKER

Parish, Saturday 14

Medeski, Martin & Wood double bassist teams with guitarist brother Oliver Wood and multi-instrumentalist Jano Rix on October's *The Muse*.

KOPECKY FAMILY BAND

Stubb's, Tuesday 17

Nashville's non-familial Americana sextet saw 2012 debut *Kids Raising Kids* reissued this year by ATO.

JIMMIE VAUGHAN

Continental Club, Tuesday 17

Austin Strat master's blue(s) holiday.

RINGO DEATHSTARR, HOLY WAVE

Hotel Vegas, Wednesday 18

Psych/electro – local rave.

WILL COURTNEY

Mohawk, Thursday 19

Shaggy Brothers & Sisters frontman returns.

Palmer Events Center, Dec. 17-24, 11am-11pm

in-stores: Saturday: **3 Balls of Fire** CD release, Antone's Records, 3pm; **Chris McQueen**, **Fare the Gap**, **Julia Lucille**, **Dwight Smith**, Trailer Space, 7pm; Sunday: SteadyBoy Records 10th Anniversary Party, with **Freddie Steady Krc & Emily Grace Berry** (2pm), **Mitch Jacobs** (3), **Will Callery** (4), **Al Staehely** (5), **Uranium Savages** (6), Antone's Records; Thursday: **Rob Funkhouser**, **MexMode**, **Shawn David McMillen**, Trailer Space, 7pm

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RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132

ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder St., Round Rock, 512/218-0813

RUSSIAN HOUSE, 307 E. Fifth, 512/428-5442

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, 107 W. Sixth, 512/477-7884

THE SAHARA LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 512/927-0700

SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 512/282-0083

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR, 5900 Slaughter #400, 512/288-9994

SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 512/448-2552

THE SCOOT INN, 1308 E. Fourth, 512/478-6200

SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 512/258-9717

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL, 9012 Research Ste. C-1, 512/380-9443

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS CEDAR PARK, 601 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2060

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS NORTH, 11416 RR 620 N., 512/401-2060

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE, 2039 Airport, 512/730-0759

SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 512/476-8017

SPICEWOOD TAVERN, 8127 Mesa, 512/386-1464

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE, 5326 Manchaca Rd., 512/828-7636

STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 512/480-8341

SWAN DIVE, 615 Red River, 512/994-2819

TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 512/255-1300

TEXAS MIST, 1115 Bastrop Hwy., 512/385-3553

THAI FRESH, 909 W. Mary, 512/494-6436

THE THIRSTY NICKEL, 325 E. Sixth, 512/473-8891

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 512/472-9304

THRICE, 909 W. Mary, 512/447-9743

TOM'S TABOOLEY, 2928 Guadalupe #102, 512/479-7337

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VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 512/291-6211

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 512/451-5245

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FUNK SOUL	THURSDAY 12.05 9:00 / \$5	CANDILAND WESTGATE REVIVAL
REGGAE	FRIDAY 12.06 9:00 / \$8	YARD SQUAD with ZION & RICHY RYCH
DANCE	SATURDAY 12.07 9:00 / \$5 \$1 off with cat ears	CATASTICA JOHN WESLEY COLEMAN WILD BILL AND THE LOST KNOBS THE EARLY STAGES
HIP HOP	SUNDAY 12.08 2:00 / \$5	THE SUNDAY MIX UP S.O.S, Ent, Young Earnest, Jay P. Young, Neighbors Blau Suede, Anya, Brother Zeke, Glow in the Sun Art by Adria Cruel, Food by Lavell McCoy, Hosted by Rhythm Galaxy Productions, D/M & Timothy Devin

WED. 12.11: FREE REGGAE! NO COVER!
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SA	DOUG MORELAND ARMADILLO ROAD OPENS
SU	GARY FLOATER'S HOLIDAY HIGH WITH ADAM CARROLL, OWEN TEMPLE & MANY SPECIAL GUESTS
MO	MANZY LOWRY, LUIGI III, PAUL NIPPER, & KYLE-MATTHEW TAYLOR
TU	BLUE WATER HIGHWAY
WE	KENT FINLAY'S SONGWRITERS' CIRCLE WITH POT-LUCK XMAS SUPPER

COMING SOON
DEC 19 GARRETT SNOWDEN & FRIENDS
DEC 20 FOSCOE JONES
DEC 21 TEXAS RENEGADE
DEC 31 NYE WITH DOCTOR G & THE MUDCATS

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THU 12x12	THEM DUQUAINES MIDNIGHT COUNTRY WILLIE EDWARDS 10PM SILAS LOWE 7PM
FRI 12x13	ROGER WALLACE MIDNIGHT THE LOWELLS 10PM GUMBO CE SOIR 7PM
SAT 12x14	BARFIELD @ 12:30AM MODERN DON JUANS 11PM ELSA CROSS 9:45PM DAVE INSLEY & CARELESS SMOKERS 7:30PM TWO STEP LESSONS 6PM
SUN 12x15	NOT IN THE FACE! 12:30AM URBAN ACHIEVERS 11PM LOVE LEIGHS 9PM CONJUNTO LOS PINKYS 5PM EAST 6TH MOSEY FEAT SLAM GIBBONS 3:30PM
MON 12x16	ROSIE & THE RAMBLERS MIDNIGHT ROLLFAST RAMBLERS 10PM THE STARGAZERS 7PM
TUE 12x17	JESSE HARRIS MIDNIGHT CHOCTAW WILDFIRE 10PM PRIMETIME RAMBLERS 7PM
WED 12x18	LEO RONDEAU MIDNIGHT COWBOY DAVE BAND 10PM SILAS LOWE 7PM

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FEATURING
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★ 2/12 HAYES CARLL ★ 2/14 IRIS DEMENT
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ANNOUNCEMENTS!

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All shows @ 8:30pm unless noted.
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1320 S. LAMAR 448.2552

Thu, Dec 12
Patrice Pike 8:00 - \$10
DILANA 10:00 - \$10
Shawn Pander 12:00 - \$5
Eightysixxed
6:00-NO COVER Happy Hour

Fri, Dec 13 **South Austin Christmas**
Butch Hancock 9:00 - \$15/\$20
John Gaar 11:30 - \$10
STRANGELOVE 12:30 - \$10
Denny Freeman
6:00-NO COVER Happy Hour

Sat, Dec 14
David Grissom 8:00 - \$10
The South Austin Moonlighters 10:00 - \$10
Leigh Rowan 6:00 - \$10
Roger Len Smith 9:00 - NO COVER
Gary Floater 12:00 - \$10

Sun, Dec 15 Enjoy Keith's BBQ Every Sunday!
THE RESENTMENTS 7:30 - \$10
Denim 3:00 - \$5
John Gaar 5:30 - NO COVER
The Twilight Trio 10:30 - \$5
Matt Cline 12:15 - NO COVER

Mon, Dec 16
LONELYLAND 8:30 - \$10
The Welcome Matt, 11:00 - \$7
KC Turner, Roem Baur 7:00 - \$10
Brother Nothing 12:30 - NO COVER

Tue, Dec 17
Bruce Hughes & The All Nude Army 8:30 - \$5
Marshall Hood 10:30 - \$5
Johnny Chops 12:15 - NO COVER
David Grissom 6:00 - NO COVER Happy Hour

Wed, Dec 18
Charlie Shafter 9:00 - \$7
Matt McCormick 11:00 - \$5
The Continuums 12:30 - \$5
Johnny Nicholas 6:00 - NO COVER Happy Hour

Red River Songwriters Tour - Dec 20
Soulhat - Dec 27
James McMurtry - Dec 28
Arthur Brown - Dec 29

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TICKET GIVEAWAYS **t**

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Central Market

Café hours at both locations: 7am-9pm Sun-Thur; and 7am-10pm Fri & Sat

CENTRAL PARK 40th & North Lamar · 512-206-1000	WESTGATE 4477 South Lamar · 512-899-4300
Thursday, December 12 WOODY RUSSELL Americana	Thursday, December 12 CLAY MCCLINTON Americana
Friday, December 13 EPHRAIM OWENS QUARTET jazz	Friday, December 13 BLACKBIRD 3 jazz
Saturday, December 14 INVINCIBLE CZARS' NUTCRACKER SUIT holiday christmas concert	Saturday, December 14 AUSTIN PIAZZOLLA QUINTET tango
Sunday, December 15 DAVID PERKOFF'S JAZZ, POP, BLUES, SWING HOLIDAY SHOW	Thursday, December 19 JAQUI WALKER soul blues
Thursday, December 19 MATTHEW ROBINSON & THE JELLY KINGS Blues Christmas Show	Friday, December 20 AKINA ADDERLEY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW jazzy, bluesy Christmas Music
Friday, December 20 CARPER FAMILY BAND country, Bluegrass Christmas Show	Saturday, December 21 ELIAS HASLANGER QUARTET jazz
Saturday, December 21 ALBERT & GAGE The Christmas Show	Thursday, December 26 DURAWA Americana
Sunday, December 22 THE TEA MERCHANTS Celtic Christmas Show	Friday, December 27 CIENFUEGOS cuban
Thursday, December 26 LETICIA RORIGUEZ Latin	Saturday, December 28 BELLTOWER jazzy soul blue
Friday, December 27 TAMECA JONES soul grooves	Thursday, January 5 MAGNIFICENT 5 swing
Saturday, December 28 WENDY COLONNA Gulf Coast soul	Friday, January 3 COPA KINGS swing
Sunday, December 29 CHARLES THIBODEAUX & THE AUSTIN CAJUN ACES	Saturday, January 4 HOT TEXAS SWING BAND western swing

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Live DJ • Photo Booth • Costume Contest
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• Midnight Champagne Toast •

• All you can eat breakfast 12:30 to 2am •

Full cash bar with specialty cocktails, beer & wine

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Ages 21 & Up

Menu

Bar Snacks • Fried Macaroni
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• Poblano Sticky Rice Balls • Beef
Tenderloin Canapé • French Toast
Bread Pudding • Frittata Cups
• Grilled Pork Chops • Apple Wood
Bacon Wrapped Meatloaf • Black
Eyed Pea, Sweet Potato, Poblano
Hash • Tator Tot Casserole • Fresh Fruit
Salad • Compost Cookies • & More

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CLUB LISTINGS

THURSDAY

ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER Little Hurricane, Fitz & the Tantrums (6:30) ♪

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

ANTONE'S Another One (9:00) A

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Barber Entertainment

BAT BAR Jordan Dewbre (4:00), Phil Luna (7:00)

BEERLAND Boss Jaguars, Danny B. Harvey & the French Connection, Three Balls of Fire (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton ♪ (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE Ed Miller & Rich Brotherton (8:30) A

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Tex Offenders, Nematoads (7:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Woody Russell ♪ (6:30) A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Clay McClinton ♪ (6:30) A

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Charlie Stout, Jason James (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Dan Dyer ♪, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: The Whiskey Sisters (6:30), Ben Kweller, Dan Goebel (10:00) ♪

THE DRAG BAR Sanchez (9:00) R, Jim Scarborough (9:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Tiffany Alana Dodgen, John Lockhart (6:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Chris Alcaraz (7:00) ♪

ELEPHANT ROOM The Jitterbug Vipers (6:00), Jake Langley (9:30)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Audic Empire, the Wreck (9:00) ♪

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Bo Porter (6:00) A

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Bonneville County Pine Box (6:30)

GYPSY LOUNGE Uranium Savages CD Release (8:00) ♪

ROAD SHOWS

December

THU 12

Fitz & the Tantrums, Little Hurricane, ACL
Live at the Moody Theater

Dan Goebel, Continental Club

Sanchez, the Drag Bar

The Wreck, Flamingo Cantina

Sundiver, Hole in the Wall
Suicidal Tendencies, Terror, Trash Talk, Mohawk

Michael Martin Murphey, One World Theatre

Kev Bev Collins, the Scoot Inn

FRI 13

REO Speedwagon, ACL
Live at the Moody Theater

Brett Dennen, Antone's
Modern Don Juans, Beerland

Corb Lund, Cheatham Street Warehouse

Fear Factory, Nonpoint, Isonomist, Dirty Dog Bar

Rockin' Lloyd Tripp, the Driskill Hotel

Cage the Elephant, J. Roddy Walston & the Business, Emo's

Rex Riddem, Holy Mountain

Migos, Infest

Skylyne, Galvanix, Parish

Butch Hancock, Saxon Pub
40 oz. of Freedom, Speakeasy

The Manichean, Swan Dive
Stymie, Trailer Space Records

SAT 14

Cat Power, Nico Turner, Antone's

Combichrist, Souless Affection, Elysium

Beyond I Sight, Gonzo, Judvian Roots, Bum Lucky, Flamingo Cantina

Jerry Jeff Walker, Gruene Hall

Bells & Parks, Holy Mountain

Shock Collar, Infest
Frightened Rabbit, Mohawk

Miggy Milla, One-2-One Bar

The Wood Brothers, Seth Walker, Parish

Suzanna Choffel, Strange Brew Lounge Side

Dwight Smith, Trailer Space Records

SUN 15

Abiotic, Dirty Dog Bar

Outlier, Hooka Hey, Hole in the Wall

Perfect Pussy, Mohawk
Dar Williams, One World Theatre

Wax, Dumbfounded, EOM, Anderson Paak, Stubb's

MON 16

The Greenery, Insurgence, Mothman, Infest

Mark Daniel, Mohawk

TUE 17

Dwight Smith, Halcyon

Zoe Muth, Hogan Sullivan Band, Hole in the Wall

Power Trip, Iron Reagan, Windhand, Red 7

Kopecky Family Band, Evan P. Donohue, Stubb's

WED 18

Dwight Smith, Carousel Lounge

Kastle, Empire Control Room

The Mavericks, Gruene Hall

Vaginal Bear Trap, Widower, HolyMountain

Banditos, the Bronze, the Sahara Lounge

THU 19

Sanchez, the Drag Bar

The Mavericks, Gruene Hall

Will Courtney, Mohawk

Suzanna Choffel, One-2-One Bar

Contrabandits, the Sahara Lounge

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. ACTS ARE LISTED CHRONOLOGICALLY. SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SO CALL CLUBS TO CONFIRM LINEUPS. START TIMES ARE PROVIDED WHERE KNOWN AND ARE PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: MUSIC LISTINGS DEADLINE IS MONDAY MORNINGS, 9AM, FOR THAT WEEK'S ISSUE, PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY. PLEASE INDICATE ROADSHOWS AND RESIDENCIES. SEND VENUE NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, ACTS, AND START TIMES TO: CLUB LISTINGS, PO BOX 49066, AUSTIN, TX 78765; FAX, 458-6910; PHONE, 512/454-5766 X159; EMAIL, clubs@austinchronicle.com.

AUSTIN BANDS: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. IF YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED AND UPLOADED YOUR MP3S TO THE MUSICIANS REGISTER, GO TO AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/REGISTER. ANYWHERE YOUR BAND IS MENTIONED, YOUR MUSIC WILL BE FEATURED.

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KYLE OFFIDANI 6PM

FRIDAY 13TH
JAZZ DADDIES 8PM

SATURDAY 14TH
THE MISMATCH 8PM

FRIDAY 20TH
MANDY ROWDEN LIVE AT OPA
CD RELEASE PARTY 7PM

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WAY SOUTH AUSTIN, THE LAST REFUGE...

THU. 12.12 • 6PM
JT COLDFIRE

FRI. 12.13 • 8PM
RUBY DEE & THE SNAKEHANDLERS

SAT. 12.14 • 5PM
THE BROTHERS VINYL + SPECIAL GUESTS

THE POSSUM POSSE 8PM

SUN. 12.15 • 3PM
EDDIE & THE EVEREADYS

TUE. 12.17 • 8PM
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BLX PLTN, THE ELECTRIC FRIENDS

FRI DEC 13
ROXY ROCA, ZAPATA
KALU JAMES

SAT DEC 14
MISPRINT
magazine
CHRISTMAS PARTY!

TUES DEC 17
Wil Cope, The Greenbirds

WED DEC 18
RINGO DEATHSTAR

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THIS WEEK: \$3 IMPERIAL TALL CANS

THU 12-12 THE ENCYCLOPEDIA SHOW presents: 7P
"Every Which Way BUT CHRISTMAS with MUSIC FROM THE INVINCIBLE CZARS"

FRI 12-13 PROTOS FESTIVAL presents: ART + TECH LABS 8P
LIVE SETS BY: Whee-ie, Twine + Lee Dockery, Multi-tracker + DIGG, Dylan C, Lo-Phi
PRESENTERS: João Beira, Yago de Quay, and Gustavo Magalhães

SAT 12-14 FAT BOTTOM CABARET presents: 730P
'Midnight Menagerie' w/ Coco Letric

SUN 12-15 HALASKA, Bee vs Moth 12P
Chief & the Doodson Device w/ FUCKING AWESOME

TUE 12-17 FUSEBOX FESTIVAL presents: "60 IN SIXTY" 730P
w/ Doug Strahan & the Good Neighbors

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UPCOMING SHOWS:

12.19 Bedpost Confessions
12.20 AND 12.21 AND 12.22
Rebecca Havemeyer & Stanley Roy present: "Whatchu' Talkin Bout Christmuss?"
12.21 Kid's Holiday 'Make & Take' Craft Camp w/ Michelle Patronella
12.22 DIY Ornaments & Gift Tags w/ Jennifer Cunningham
12.26 Thursday Night Social Ride

HAPPY HOUR IN THE LOUNGE TUE - FRI / 5PM - 8PM
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GRAHAM WILKINSON & DREW SMITH 7PM

THE SOAP BOXERS 8:30PM
SHEBOYGAN 11:30PM

FRI. DEC. 13
AMF FUNDRAISER (PRIVATE EVENT)

SAT. DEC. 14
NATURAL EAR SCHOOL OF MUSIC 4PM
STRUMERO & MIGGY MILLA 7PM
ALEX RUIZ & THE NIGHT MOTHERS 8:30PM
ULRICH ELLISON'S
CD RELEASE & BIRTHDAY BASH

SUN. DEC. 15
THE POSSUM POSSE 7:30PM
AMANDA CEVALLOS 9:30PM

MON. DEC. 16
JAZZ DADDIES 7PM
Motown Monday WITH
The Matchmaker Band 9PM
THE NIGHTOWLS 11:15PM

TUE. DEC. 17
ATX LIVE & LOCAL PODCAST
WITH **THE RANKIN TWINS,**
EMMY ROBBIN, AND
KERRILINDO 7PM

WED. DEC. 18
THE DRAKES 8PM
Brannen & Ephraim 10:30PM
DUMPSTER DUCKS 11:30PM

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CHEER UP CHARLIE'S

12/12: NITE SCHOOL w/ DJs Malcolm Elijah & Scorpio and live music by Ssleeperhold, Silk Rodeo 9pm-2am

12/13: The Blackstone Rangers, Knifight, Videoing 10pm-2am

12/14: A\$\$ Night w/ DJs Stone Cold Snugglas & live music by KATEY RED! Doors @9pm

12/15: Mosey Music Crawl w/ Molly Burch Doors 8pm outside Planet Fabulous Karaoke 10pm-2am

12/17: Queer Mountain Episode 9: "WANT" 10pm-2am

12/18: Netherfriends Residency w/ The Gents 10pm-2am

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THU 12/12 *The Return of Whiskey Town featuring 2012 Rock 'N' Roll Hall of Fame Inductee*
IAN McLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND 8PM
LATER: **DBBS ENTERTAINMENT** 10PM

FRI 12/13 **MAX LEGRAND** 8PM
SLEEPING ON SILVER 9PM
EXIT WONDERWORLD 10PM

SAT 12/14 **DJ VERSUS** SPINS TILL 2AM....

SUN 12/15 **VANESSA REEVES & WE JUST MET** 7PM

WED 12/18 **AARON LACOMBE** 9PM
WYLDZ WEDNESDAYS 10:30PM

THU 12/19 **STEFEN HARPIN** 8PM

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THE SAHARA LOUNGE

THU 12 **TREY PRIVOTT** 7:30P **THE LOST GROOVE** 8:30P
GARRETT LEBEAU 10P

FRI 12 **DB MARTIN GROUP** 7P **FIRST FLIGHT** 8:30P
TONY HOLIDAY AND THE VELVETONES 10P
BOSS STREET BRASS BAND 12A

SAT 12 **BAMAKO AIRLINES** 10P **ZOOMOUNTCHI** 12A

SUN 12 **PLUTONIUM FARMERS** 8P **CHURCHWOOD** 9:30P
STOP MOTION ORCHESTRA 11P

MON 12 **CHRIS KING AND THE LIBERATORS** 8P
KATHRYN LEGENDRE 9P
MAYEUX & BROUSSARD 10P

TUE 12 **LEE JASTER** 8P **STEVE ACERI** 9:30P
REAL LIVE TIGERS 10:35P

WED 12 **STEVE ACERI** 9:30P **BANDITOS (NASHVILLE)** 7P
MOTEL BALL BAND 8P **THE BRONZE** 9P
LOW TIMES 10P **BAD LOVERS** 11P
DANNY B. HARVEY 12A

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SAT DEC 21 **REVEREND HORTON HEAT**
w/ **DALE WATSON** AND **TWO TONS OF STEEL** C3CONCERTS.COM

SUN DEC 29 **HAYES CARLL**
w/ **J.D. McPHERSON** AND **MIKE & THE MOONPIES** C3CONCERTS.COM

TUE DEC 31 **NEW YEARS EVE!**
RYAN BINGHAM C3CONCERTS.COM

TUE JAN 14 **GUNGOR** C3CONCERTS.COM

FRI JAN 17 **SAVOY** C3CONCERTS.COM

WED JAN 29 **INFECTED MUSHROOM** w/
BUTCH CLANCY • SOMATOAST C3CONCERTS.COM

SAT FEB 15 **LED ZEPPELIN 2**
TIX ON SALE FRI 12/13 @10AM THRU C3CONCERTS.COM

WED MAY 7 **CHRISTINA PERRI**
TIX ONSALE THUR 12/12 @10 AM THRU C3CONCERTS.COM

* 1/31 DARKSIDE (C3CONCERTS.COM) • 2/14 WHITE LIES w/ FRANKIE ROSE (C3CONCERTS.COM) • 2/17 & 2/18 LORD HURON w/ NIGHT BEDS (C3CONCERTS.COM) • 2/22 DALE EARNHARDT JR. JR. w/ CHAD VALLEY (C3CONCERTS.COM) • 2/27 THE EXPENDABLES w/ STICK FIGURE AND SEEDLESS (C3CONCERTS.COM) • 4/24 MOGWAI (C3CONCERTS.COM)

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: **EMOSAUSTIN.COM**
WATERLOO RECORDS • TRAILER SPACE • END OF AN EAR RECORDS

TEXAS CLUB BAR & GRILL

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 **NO COVER!**

TEJANO NIGHT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

TEJANO & HIP HOP DJs

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

JIMMY CONZALEZ

KARAOKE WEDNESDAYS

BEER BUCKET SPECIALS
M-TH ALL NIGHT • NO COVER!

4914 Burleson Road (512)541-7621

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM THURSDAY

HOLE IN THE WALL Sundiver, Stumbledrunk, Kiddoo & the Dude, Robocougar (9:00) R

HOLY MOUNTAIN The Fly

HOTEL VEGAS Electric Friends, BLXLPTN, Fare the Gap, Kay Leotard (10:00)

INFEST Jake Andrews, Britny Lobas & Red Coral, Amanda Cevallos & the High Hands (8:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00)

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Doug Moreland & the Flying Armadillos (7:30)

MOHAWK Trash Talk, Terror, Suicidal Tendencies (6:30) A R

NEWORLDELI Joel McColl & David Pulkingham

ONE WORLD THEATRE Michael Martin Murphey (7:00, 9:30) A R

ONE-2-ONE BAR Songwriters Series (7:00), Sheboygan (11:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Libby Koch (4:00); Parker McCollum, Adam Lopez, Johnson (6:30) A

RAINEY STREET BACKYARD EATERY Zack Weber (8:00)

REMEDY 90's w/ DJ Mighty Fly (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Walker & the Texas Dangers (9:00)

RUSSIAN HOUSE East Side Dandies A

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton Trio (6:30)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Trey Privott, the Lost Groove (7:30)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Mente Clara (7:00)

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00), Patrice Pike, Dilana, Shawn Pander (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Boss Street Brass Band, Kev Bev Collins, Jean Claude Van Jam (7:00) R

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Radioactive

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Margaret Wright (6:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Billy Bacon (4:00), Kacy Crowley, Miles Zuniga, Matt the Electrician (6:00) A

TOM'S TABOOLEY Mark Garrison (4:00) A, Ben Livingston (6:30) A

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Jonathan Horne, King Pelvis (7:00) A

TRIPLE CROWN Molly J. Hayes (6:00); Loose Leaf, TransContinental Trip (10:00)

Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

FRIDAY 13

ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER The Wylz, REO Speedwagon (6:30) A R

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Fusion

ANTONE'S KGSR Anniversary w/ the Unlikely Candidates, Saints of Valory, Brett Dennen (8:00) A R

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Megabig (8:30)

AUSTIN CONVENTION CENTER Shadow of Whales (1:30)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Stereo Scope

BEERLAND Silver Loves Mercury, Modern Don Juans, Flametrick Subs (9:00) R

BOURBON GIRL Lloyd Miller (8:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Holiday Party w/ Paula Russell, Dance Lessons, Asleep at the Wheel (6:00) A

CACTUS CAFE Slaid Cleaves (8:30) A

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Chapparal Dixielanders, Painted Redstarts, American People (7:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Ephraim Owens Quartet (6:30) A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Blackbird 3 (6:30) A

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE HalleyAnna, Corb Lund (9:00) R

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Sugarbomb (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Robert Kraft Trio, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30), Two Hoots & a Holler, LeRoI Brothers (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Doug Moreland (8:30) A

DIRTY DOG BAR Isonomist, No Such Thing, Fear Control, Course of Ruin, Nonpoint, Fear Factory (7:00) R

DIZZY ROOSTER Hitsquad (8:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRAG BAR Chris Strand, Mini Pony (9:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Robert Allan Caldwell (6:00), Rockin' Lloyd Tripp (9:00) R

EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM Blue Squeeze Box (11:00)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi Los Toros (8:30) A

ELEPHANT ROOM Gaila Kenneally (6:00), Pete Rodriguez (9:30)

EMO'S Habitat for Humanity Benefit w/ Ume, J. Roddy Walston & the Business, Cage the Elephant (10:00) A R

FLAMINGO CANTINA Zetroc, DJ Notion, Public Offenders, Mindz of a Different Kind LP Release (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs (7:00) A, Lou Reed Tribute w/ Robbie Teardrop, Steve Arceri, David Nathan, Gary Moore, Miles Chick, Alex Salinas, Boone Graham (9:00) A

GUERO'S TACO BAR The Bob Fuentes Show (6:30)

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Tue 17 **GEORGE DEVORE'S BACKSTAGE JAM** 9:00

Wed 18 **WOOD AND WIRE** 10:30

Thu 19 **RATTLE INN ROCK NIGHT** 10:00

Fri 20 **WATERLOO REVIVAL** 10:00

Sat 21 **MATT CLINE** 10:00

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Sun Dec 15 **The Stapletones** 11am
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Sun Dec 15 **Christmas Carols Sing-A-Long**
Jon Emery & Special Guests 6pm
no cover

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Sun Dec 15 **Austin Jazz Workshop**
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Wed Dec 18 **George Macias & Bill Starrett**
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THURSDAY
HAPPY HOUR
DECEMBER 12
6:30PM

WHISKEY SISTERS
12AM DAN GOEBEL

10PM BEN KWELLER

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13
HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM THE LEGENDARY
BLUES SPECIALISTS

12AM LEROI BROTHERS

10PM TWO HOOTS
AND A HOLLER

SAT DECEMBER 14
MATINEE DOORS 3PM REDD VOLKAERT

12AM THE INFIDELS
10PM PATRICIA VONNE
B-DAY BASH!

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15
MATINEE DOORS 3PM PLANET CASPER

WITH DAVID GRISSOM,
RICH BROTHERTON AND
"SCRAPPY" JUD NEWCOMB
7:30PM

THE WAGONEERS
10:15PM HEYBALE
WITH REDD VOLKAERT,
EARL POOLE BALL
AND DALLAS WAYNE

MONDAY DECEMBER 16
HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM NO COVER
THE PETERSON BROTHERS

DALE WATSON
AND HIS LONESTARS

TUES DECEMBER 17
12AM BARFIELD
THE TYRANT
OF TEXAS
FUNK

10PM JIMMIE VAUGHAN

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18
HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM
HOT CLUB
OF COWTOWN

12AM JAMES MCMURTRY

10PM JON DEE GRAHAM

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HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM

COMING SOON

THURSDAY DECEMBER 19

HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM WHISKEY SISTERS

12AM JIMMY & THE MUSTANGS

10PM HOT NUT RIVETING

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20

HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM BLUES SPECIALISTS

11:30PM JUNIOR BROWN

10PM COWBOY DAVE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 21

MATINEE 3:30PM REDD VOLKAERT

12AM T-BIRD & THE BREAKS

10PM LATASHA LEE & THE BLACK TIES

TUESDAY DECEMBER 31

10PM JIMMIE VAUGHAN

12AM BARFIELD THE TYRANT OF TEXAS FUNK

NEW YEAR'S EVE TIX ON SALE NOW

IN THE GALLERY DOORS AT 8PM

THURSDAY DECEMBER 12

10:30 TAMECA JONES

8:30 DAN DYER

FRIDAY & SUNDAY DECEMBER 13 & 15

10:30 MIKE FLANIGIN TRIO

FRI 8:30 ROBERT KRAFT

SAT. DEC. 14 CLOSED FOR PRIVATE PARTY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15

8:30 WHITMORE - GRAHAM

GUITAR PULL

MONDAY DECEMBER 16

10:30 KALU JAMES

8:30 CHURCH ON MONDAY

ELIAS HASLANGER • DR. JAMES POLK • JAKE LANGLEY

TUESDAY DECEMBER 17

10:30 EPHRAIM OWENS

8:30 JAMES MCMURTRY

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18

10:30 TRUBE • FARRELL • SNIZ

8:30 BILL CARTER

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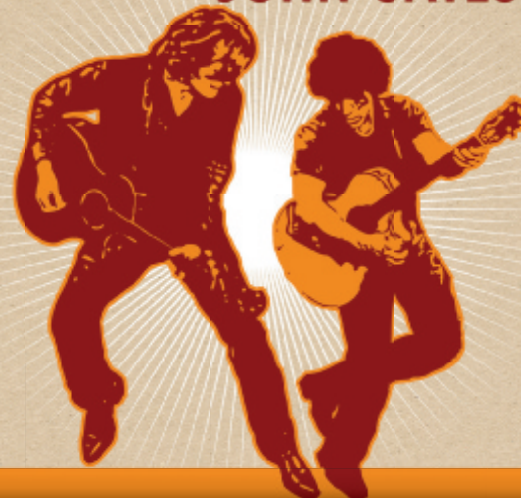


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FRI
DEC 13

ROBERT
EARL
KEEN'S
MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE FAM-O-LEE
w/ LLOYD MAINES & TERRI HENDRIX
FRI
DEC 20

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w/ SPECIAL
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FEB 27
AMOS LEE
MOUNTAINS OF SORROW, RIVERS OF SONG TOUR

ACUSTIC SHOW
Josh Ritter
w/ GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV
SAT
JAN 18

The Beach Boys
JAN 19

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ON SALE FRI DEC 13 @10AM

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TUE DEC 31 **DOORS 9PM**
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FREE WEEK SAT JAN 4 **DOORS 8PM**
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FREE WEEK WED JAN 8 **DOORS 8PM**
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WED APR 9

LOCAL NATIVES

ON SALE FRI DEC 13 @10AM

THU APR 24

VAMPIRE WEEKEND

ON SALE FRI DEC 13 @10AM

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM FRIDAY

HOLY MOUNTAIN Night Fever w/ Lance Herbrstrong, Rex Riddem (9:00) **R**

HOTEL VEGAS Kalu James, Zapata!, Roxy Roca (10:00)

INFEST Yung Rich Party w/ Migos (9:00) **A R**

LEGENDARY WHITE SWAN Spiked Punch, Stickers, the Cocker Spaniels, Party Plants, Bottom Chef (10:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Max Legrand, Sleeping on Silver, Exit Wonderland (8:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00) **A**

MOHAWK Inside: Devin James Fry, Jack Wilson, Some Say Leland LP Release (9:00); Outside: The Baker Family, Residual Kid, Cruiserweight (7:00)

NEWORLDELI Ron Kewin

THE NOOK Sean Evan & His Very Handsome Band (8:30)

THE NORTH DOOR Art + Tech Lab w/ Gustavo Magalhaes, Yago De Quay, Joao Beira, DJ Digg, DJ Dylan C, Steve Parker, Twine & Lee Dockery, Wheezie (9:00)

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Lee Person (8:00)

PARISH Galvanix, Skylyne, Brede, R/D (9:00) **R**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Charlie Pierce (4:00) **A**, Whiskey root (11:00) **A**

RILEY'S TAVERN Brigitte London Band (9:00)

ROADHOUSE Code Blue (8:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE DB Martin, First Flight, Tony Holiday & the Velvetones, Boss Street Brass Band (7:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Roll Fast Ramblers (7:30)

SAXON PUB Denny Freeman (6:00), Butch Hancock, John Gaar (9:00) **A R**

SHENANIGANS The Balls (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Chris Boss

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS NORTH Jukebox Heroes (9:00)

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Matt Hubbard, Texas East Side Kings (6:00)

SPEAKEASY 40 oz. of Freedom (10:00) **A**

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE David Ducharme-Jones, Jesse Dayton, Shinyribs (6:00) **A**

STUBB'S Fire in the Kitchen, Carter Beckworth, Buggaboo (9:00)

SWAN DIVE Clouds Are Ghosts, Eric Wilson, the Manichean **R**

TEXAS MIST DJ Joe Hernandez (9:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Guilty Pleasures (8:30)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Prince, Stymie (7:00) **R A**

TRIPLE CROWN Los Gallos (6:00); The Belgraves, Black Water Revival, Merry Chrisfits, La Strange Sideshow (10:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Zydeco Dance Lessons, Gumbo Ce Soir (6:30)

SATURDAY 4

311 CLUB Joe Valentine (7:00) **A**
AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Triple Play

ANTONE'S Nico Turner, Cat Power (9:00) **A R A**

ANTONE'S RECORDS 3 Balls of Fire (3:00) **A**

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Li'l Mikey & the Soda Jerks, Mike & the Moonpies (6:30)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Roxy Roca

BARTON CREEK FARMERS MARKET Jimmy Joe Natoli, the Better Halves, Bob Appel, Marghi Allen (9:00) **A**

BAT BAR Street Kingz (4:00)

BEERLAND Ghetto Ghouls, Nazi Gold, Video, Liquor Store (9:00)

BOURBON GIRL Public Disturbance

BROKEN SPOKE Ben Rogers, Dance Lessons, Dale Watson (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE Elise Davis (2:30) **A**, Dana Falconberry (8:30) **A**

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Topsy, Alexander Nobles, the Ugly Beats (7:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Invincible Czars Nutcracker Suite (6:30) **A A**

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Austin Piazzolla Quintet (6:30) **A**

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Armadillo Road, Doug Moreland (9:00)

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Shinyribs Fri. Dec 13th 10 pm
Jesse Dayton Fri. Dec 13th 8 pm
Suzanna Choffel Sat Dec 14th 10 pm

Tickets & Schedule at
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Thursday December 12th
 Billy Bacon 4p Kacy Crowley 6p
 Miles Zuniga 7p Matt the Electrician 9p

Friday December 13th
 TBA 4p David Ducharme-Jones 6p
 Jesse Dayton 8pm Shinyribs 10p

Saturday December 14th
 Hey Lollies (Kids Show) 10a, Jane Bond Band 6p
 Lex Land 8p,
 Suzanna Choffel 10p

Sunday December 15th
 Gospel Brunch 11a,
 Sam Baker & Friends 5p
 Geeks Who Drink Trivia 7p

Monday December 16th
 Juke Joint Prophets 4p, Hot Nut Riveters 6p
 Wrenfro 8p
 The Brothers Vinyl 10p

Tuesday December 17th
 Gouchy Like Riley w/ Dolan, Britt, Dykhuis 4p
 DURAWA 6p The Apostles of Manchaca 8p
 David Hamburger 10p

Wednesday December 18th
 Nate Rodriguez 4p
 Bob Cheevers W/ Chris Gage 6p
 Van Wilks & Josh Smith 8p Dave Scher 10p
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FRI DEC 13
 7:15 PM
OCCULTA VERO, KNIGHTS, THE SCHISMS, AND MIGRANT KIDS

SAT DEC 14
 9 PM
AUSTIN BOOGIE CREW PRESENTS: BUMP AND HUSTLE

SUN DEC 15
 7 PM
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TUE DEC 17
 7:15 PM
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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM SATURDAY

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Tish & Misbehavin' (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Scarlett Olson, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: Redd Volkaert (3:30), Patricia Vonne, the Infidels (10:00)

CU-29 Ron & Sam (9:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR Inch of Dark, Powderburn, Snakeskin Prison (9:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Sean Evan & His Very Handsome Band (8:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Danny Britt & Red Dawg

THE DRAG BAR Blake Richardson Band, Once Per Axis (7:30), Blake Richardson, Once Per Axis (9:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Biscuit Grabbers (9:00)

EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM Haun's Mill (11:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Andre Hayward (9:30)

ELYSIUM Souless Affection, Combichrist (10:00)

1ST DOWN AND STASSNEY SPORTS BAR & GRILL Roy Heinrich & the Pickups (9:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Bum Lucky, Judvian Roots, Gonzo, Beyond I Sight (9:00)

FRIENDS Kevin & the Krawlers (4:00)

GRUENE HALL Jerry Jeff Walker (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Al Dressen (2:30), Eve Monsees (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Eat the Taco, the Presidents, the Baffles (9:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Patch, Bells & Parks, Sounds Under Radio (9:00)

INFEST Shock Collar, Blood Royale, Crimson Devils, Lone Star Demons (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Versus

MOHAWK Outside: Graham Wilkinson, Frightened Rabbit (7:00); Inside: Little Radar, Black Books, La Migra (9:00)

MOONTOWER SALOON Possum Posse

NEWORLDELI Panama Hats

THE NOOK Rain on the Aftermath

ONE-2-ONE BAR Natural Ear School of Music (4:00); Strumero & Miggy Milla, Alex Ruiz & the Night Mothers, Ulrich Ellison CD Release (7:00)

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Bruce Robison & Kelly Willis Holiday Show w/ Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (8:00)

PARISH Seth Walker, the Wood Brothers (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE The Everydudes (4:00), Charlie Harrison, Ricky Stein, Clay McClinton (6:30)

RED 7 Outside: Winslow, Experimental Aircraft, My Education LP Release (9:00); Inside: The Swells, A Tiger Named Lovesick, 7% Solution, Cue (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Billy Bacon & the Forbidden Pigs (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Bamako Airlines, Zoumouchi (10:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR T. Jarrod Bonta (7:00)

SAXON PUB Roger Len Smith (3:00); Lee Rowan, David Grissom, the South Austin Moonlighters, Gary Floater (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Les & the Funk Mob

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS CEDAR PARK Stooch (9:30)

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Corey Roberts, Leary Kelly, DJ SpinViper (8:00)

SPEAKEASY Spacerockers, DJ Jericho One (9:30)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Hey Lollies (10:00am); Jane Bond, Lex Land, Suzanna Choffel (6:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Street Kingz (8:30)

THRICE Norm Ballinger & Jimmy George (7:00)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Dwight Smith, Julia Lucille, Fare the Gap, Chris McQueen (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN The Beaumonts, Bread Opera (10:00)

SUNDAY

ANTONE'S Girl Guitar (5:00)

ANTONE'S RECORDS Freddy Steady KRC, Emily Grace Berry, Mitch Jacobs, Will Callery, Al Staehly, Uranium Savages (2:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Open Mic (7:00)

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (9:00)

BOURBON GIRL Jordan Dewbre (5:00); Sound Advice (8:30)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH David Perkoff Band's Holiday Show (noon)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Gary Floater's Holiday High (8:00)

CHEER UP CHARLIE'S East Sixth Musical Mosey w/ Molly Burch (7:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Whitmore-Graham Guitar Pull, Dupree (8:30); In the Club: Planet Casper (3:30); The Wagoneers, Heybale! (7:30)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR Bury the Rod, Whore of Bethlehem, Abiotic (7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM John Fremgen (9:30)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Bridging the Music Finals (5:00)

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire (5:30), Blues Jam (9:00)

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL Ruby Jane Smith (12:30), Hot Club of Cowtown (4:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Mitch Webb & the Swindles (3:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Hooka Hey, Outlier, As Luck Would Have It (9:00)

HOTEL VEGAS East Sixth Musical Mosey Wind-Up w/ DJ Capt. Jim's Heart n' Soul Soundsytem (8:30)

HOUSE WINE Justin Landers (6:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Vanessa Reeves & We Just Met (7:00)

MICKLETHWAIT CRAFT MEATS Anniversary w/ the John-Pauls (noon)

MOHAWK Ghetto Ghouls, Feral Future, Perfect Pussy (9:00)

THE NORTH DOOR Fucking Awesone, Chief & the Doomsday Device, Bee vs. Moth, Halaska (9:00)

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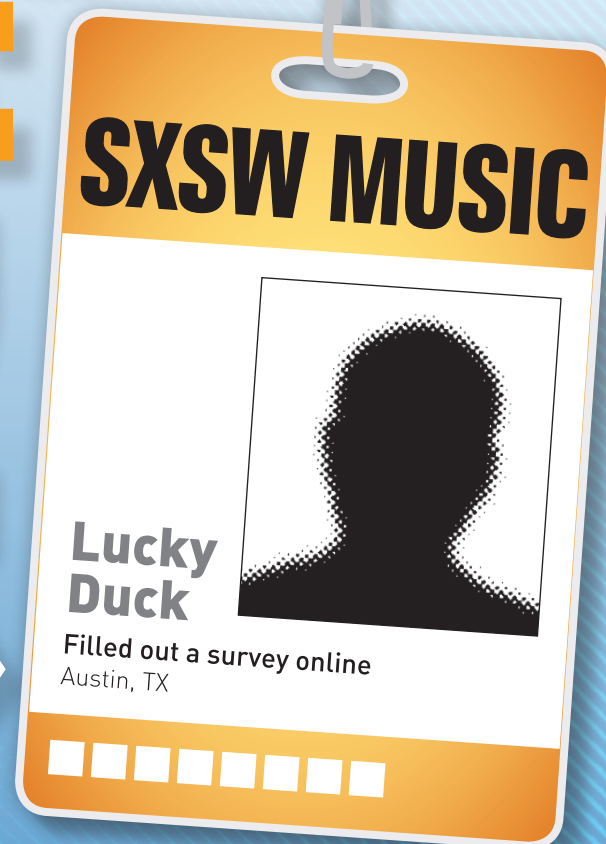
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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM SUNDAY

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
(11:00am) **A**

THE OASIS The Brew **A**

ONE WORLD THEATRE Dar
Williams **A R A**

ONE-2-ONE BAR Possum Posse
(7:30), Amanda Cevallos (9:30)

**POODIE'S HILLTOP
ROADHOUSE** Tessy Lou &
the Shotgun Stars (4:00), Jon
Napier (7:30) **A**

RATTLE INN Lucas Hudgins &
the First Cousins (7:00)

RED 7 Liza Lullabye, the Bye &
Bye, the Electric Shout (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Plutonium
Farmers, Churchwood **J**, Stop
Motion Orchestra (8:00)

SAXON PUB Denim (3:00), John
Gaar (5:30), the Resentments
(7:30), Twilight Trio, Skyline
Drive (10:30)

THE SCOOT INN East Sixth
Musical Mosey w/ the Zoltars
(5:30)

SPEAKEASY Open Turntable

SPICEWOOD TAVERN Erin Ivey
(7:30)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE
Purgatory Players (11:00am)
A, Sam Baker (5:00) **A**

STUBB'S Gospel Silvertones
(11:00am), Anderson Paak,
EOM, Dumbfounded, Wax
(8:00) **R**

TOM'S TABOOLEY Austin
Friends of Traditional Music
(2:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Jeff
Lofton (11:00am) **A**

THE WHITE HORSE East Sixth
Musical Mosey w/ Slam
Gibbons **J** (3:30)

MONDAY 16

ANTONE'S Blue Monday, Nancy
Scott Farewell w/ Damien
Llanes, Scott Nelson, Riley
Osbourne, Georgia Bramhall,
Emily Gimble, Carolyn
Wonderland, Marcia Ball, Derek
O'Brien (6:00) **A**, Austin Blues
Society Open Mic (8:00) **A**

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open
Mic (8:00)

**CHEATHAM STREET
WAREHOUSE** Many Lowry,
Paul Nipper, Kyle-Matthew
Taylor, Luie III (10:00)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)
A

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
Church on Monday, Kalu
James **J** (8:30); In the Club:
The Peterson Brothers (6:30),
Dale Watson & His Lone Stars
(10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

THE DRISKILL HOTEL J. Wagner
(6:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
Mark Goodwin (7:00) **A**, Kris
Kimura (7:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Austin
Jazz Band (6:00), Michael
Mordecai's JazzJam (9:30)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles
Thibodeaux & the Austin
Cajun Aces (6:30) **A**

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE
Bottom Dollar String Band,
the Bluegrass Outfit (7:00) **A**

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham
(6:00) **A**

HOLE IN THE WALL Bluebird
Specials, Junkyard Mongrels
(9:00)

INFEST Mothman, Insurgence,
Blurry Vision, Illustrations, the
Greenery (7:00) **R**

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

MOHAWK Mark Daniel, the
Division Men, Jason Blum
(9:00) **R**

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS
John Wilson **A**

NASTY'S DJ Mel

NEWORDELI Open Mic w/
Hudson James (5:30)

ONE-2-ONE BAR Jazz Daddys
(7:00), MatchMaker Band,
Ryan Harkrider & the
Nightowls (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE
Songwriters Showcase w/
George Ensle, Eric Hanke **A**

RATTLE INN Brennen Leigh (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Singer-
Songwriter Showcase w/ John
Whipple (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Chris
King & the Liberators,
Kathryn Legendre, Mayeux &
Broussard (8:00)

SAXON PUB Lonelyland, the
Welcome Matt, K.C. Turner,
Roem Baur, Ryan Mars (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Open Blues Jam
w/ Breck English (7:30)

**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB
& GRILL** Brent Michael Wood

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE
Juke Joint Prophets (4:00);
Hot Nut Riveters (6:00);
Wrenfro, the Brothers Vinyl
(8:00) **A**

THRICE Steelbeam (5:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Ripe Honey
(6:00), Chief & the Doomsday
Device (9:00)

VICTORY GRILL Open Pro Blues
Jam w/ Matthew Robinson,
Harold McMillan (9:00)

Z'TEJAS Trés (6:00)

TUESDAY 17

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB
Suzanne Smith (7:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Amanda,
Weldon Henson (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE 35MM,
Suzanne Monroe (9:00)

**CHEATHAM STREET
WAREHOUSE** Blue Water
Highway (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
James McMurtry, Ephraim
Owens Experience (8:30); In
the Club: Toni Price (6:00),
Jimmie Vaughan: 50 Years in
Music, Barfield (10:00) **A**

THE DOGWOOD Colt Landon
Baker (7:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the
Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill
Bar: Massimo Gerosa (6:00),
Mrs. Glass (8:00)

EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM DJ
Gatsby (10:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith
(6:00), Adrian Ruiz Quintet
(9:30)

ELYSIUM Eurotrash (10:00)

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Sherah &
the Fine Souls (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE
Erik Hokkanen (9:00) **A**

GRUENE HALL Two Tons of Steel
Christmas Show (8:30) **A**

HALCYON Dwight Smith (10:00)
R A

HOLE IN THE WALL Hogan
Sullivan Band, Zoe Muth, Fog
& Bone (9:00) **R**

HOLY MOUNTAIN Vintage
Christmas w/ Frisky
Business, Snorky's Rhythm
Kings (9:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

MOHAWK Sic Pop, John Wesley
Coleman, thinknothink (9:00)

ONE-2-ONE BAR ATX Live &
Local w/ the Rankin Twins,
Emmy Robbin & Kerri Lindo

THE PALM DOOR Chronicle
Paper Cuts w/ Wild Bill & the
Lost Knobs (7:00) **A**

PALMER EVENTS CENTER
Armadillo Christmas Bazaar
w/ Peterson Brothers (noon);
Emily Bell & John Evans
(3:30pm); the Eggmen (8:00)
A A

A ALL AGES VENUE **R** ROADSHOW **★** RECOMMENDED **J** HEAR MUSIC ONLINE

CLUB LISTINGS

POODIE'S HILLTOP

ROADHOUSE Kem Watts, Tommy Elskes (6:00) **A**

RATTLE INN George Devore's Backstage Jam (9:00)

RED 7 Windhand, Iron Reagan, Mammoth Grinder, Power Trip (9:00) **★R**

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Steve Arceri, Real Live Tigers (9:30)

SAXON PUB David Grissom (6:00), Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army, Marshall Hood (8:30)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Paul Renna

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Bill Davis (9:00), Dickie Lee Erwin (9:30)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE
SIDE Grouchy Like Riley (4:00); Durawa, Apostles of Manchaca, David Hamburger (6:00) **A**

STUBB'S Evan P. Donohue, the Rocketboys, Kopecky Family Band (8:00) **★R**

THAI FRESH Satellite Sessions w/ Patryce King

TRIPLE CROWN Beth Lee (6:00); 4or.ms, For Elise, Talk Radio (9:00)

Z'TEJAS Tameca Jones (6:00)

WEDNESDAY 12

290 WEST BAR & GRILL Open Mic (8:45)

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Surly Gates (8:30)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Jackie Venson

BAT BAR Clint Manning (4:00), J Bone & Southern Means, May Sun & the Mojo House Revival (7:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Sunset Valley Boys, Dance Lessons (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Jaja Mystics, Arcola, Dwight Smith, Colin de los Santos (7:30) **R**

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (11:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Bill Carter; Trube, Farrell & Sniz (8:30); In the Club: Kalu James, Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Honky Tonk Doctors

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Massimo Gerosa (6:00), Bruce Smith (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James Speer (7:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharaohs (6:00), Monster Big Band (9:30)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM Kastle (10:00) **R**

FLAMINGO CANTINA Mau Mau Chaplains (8:30)

GRUENE HALL Jamie Wilson, the Mavericks (8:00) **★R A**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Larry Monroe Radio Show (6:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL J. Wesley Haynes Trio, Frontier Live, D-Madness (9:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN

Sex Chamber, Destroyer of Light, Widower, Vaginal Bear Trap (9:00) **R**

HOTEL VEGAS Holy Wave, Ringo Deathstarr (9:00) **★**

INFEST Bad Micky Ficky (8:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Aaron LaCombe Band (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Open Mic (6:30) **A**

NEWORLDELI Jenifer Jackson

ONE-2-ONE BAR The Drakes (6:00), Brannen Temple & Ephraim Owens (6:00), Dumpster Ducks (11:30)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Clay McClinton, Patricia Vonne (3:30); Ray Wylie Hubbard (8:00) **A**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Andrea Marie **A**

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED 7 Bearded Ox, Nekrist, Immerse (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Michael Fletcher (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Bad Lovers, Low Times, the Bronze, Banditos, Danny B. Harvey (7:00) **R**

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:40)

SAXON PUB Johnny Nicholas & the Hellbent (6:00), Charlie Shafter, Matt McCormack, Continuums (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Encore

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Nate Rodriguez (4:00); Bob Cheevers, Van Wilks, Dave Scher (7:00) **A**

STUBB'S Full Service (8:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Sound Advice (9:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Manzy Lowry (6:00), Fambly, Chief & the Doodmsday Device, Rock Bottom String Band, Christian Hyun, Kilmatik (9:00)

Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Randy Weeks, Philip Gibbs, (6:00)

THURSDAY 13

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Justif

BAT BAR Jordan Dewbre (4:00), Phil Luna (7:00)

BEERLAND Preston's Pity Party w/ the Dead Space, 10101, Golden Ghetto, Eets Feats (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton, (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Bends, Brazilian Space Program, Lost Cat Magnet (9:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Matthew Robinson & the Jelly Kings (6:30) **A**

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Jaqui Walker (6:30) **A**

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Garrett Snowden

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Dan Dyer, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: The Whiskey Sisters (6:30), Hot Nut Riveters, Jimmy & the Mustangs (10:00)

THE DRAG BAR Sanchez (9:00) **R**

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Massimo Gerosa (6:00), Julia Ward (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM The Jitterbug Vipers (6:00), Bruce Saunders (9:30)

FLAMINGO CANTINA DJ Richard Henry (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Jamie Wilson, the Mavericks (8:00) **★R A**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Natalie Zoe, (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Amanda Cevallos & the High Hands (9:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Pagame, Son de Rey, La Vida Buena (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Stefen Harpin (8:00)

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Doug Moreland & the Flying Armadillos (7:30)

MOHAWK Real Live Tigers, Tenlons Fort, Will Courtney (9:00) **★R**

ONE-2-ONE BAR Songwriters Series w/ Suzanna Choffel, Will Evans, Nathan Singleton, Drew Smith; the Memphis Strange, Blue Bear, (7:00) **R**

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Sarah Pierce (noon); the Carper Family (3:30); Shinyribs (8:00) **A**

PARISH Mamafesta, A Live One (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Shawn Nelson, Amber Lucille, Johnson (6:30) **A**

RED 7 Chancellor, Shrines, Megabig (9:00)

REMEDY 90's w/ DJ Mighty Fly (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Big Red Drum (9:00)

RUSSIAN HOUSE East Side Dandies **A**

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton Trio (6:30)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Marshall Owen, Contrabandits, Los Federales (10:00) **R**

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Soul Wagon (7:00)

SAXON PUB Eightysixed (6:00), The Band of Heathens, La Tampiquena, (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Blue Finger Disco

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE
SIDE Billy Bacon (4:00), Kacy Crowley, Miles Zuniga, Matt the Electrician, (6:00) **A**

TOM'S TABOOLEY Mark Garrison (4:00) **A**, Ben Livingston (6:30) **A**

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Shawn David McMillen, Mex-Mode, Rob Funkhauser (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Nate Guthrie (6:00); Hair Farmers, Goodwill Souljahs, Are You Crazy? (10:00)

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The LUV DOC

Dear Luv Doc,

I go out to lunch regularly with a group of co-workers. Some of us are friends and we do things together outside of work. I love my friends, but they have a really annoying habit of discussing things we do or people we know outside of work with-

out giving any background or details to the people at the table who weren't there and don't know what we're talking about. I think it's really rude and when it starts happening I can see the co-workers who aren't part of our friend group start to check out and not engage in the conversation. Am I wrong that this is rude or should I just expect them to ask questions if they don't know what we're talking about?

— Celeste

You're spot-on with that shit, Celeste. That is totally rude. In fact, Marcus and I were just discussing that exact thing with Lynn the other day at the game and Lynn was all like, "Devil's in the details, bitch. I need some backstory," and I was like, "Word, yo," because my friends and I like to talk like we're in the Beastie Boys even though we're not even from NYC or even the East Coast – well, except for Lynn. She's from a state near there. She's still pretty much a hillbilly though, and we give her shit about it all the time, even though she has a master's degree or something. But seriously, that time when she broke her wrist? We were all like, "Damn girl, couldn't your parents afford powdered milk when you were growing up?" OMG, I am laughing SO HARD right now! So, you see what I am saying, Celeste? Your friends are kind of assholes, although I will give them the credit of being self-absorbed assholes. I think it's a safe bet they haven't given any consideration whatsoever to whether or not they are including everyone in the conversation. An even scarier thought is that they have considered it and just don't care. I want to believe, Celeste, that you choose your friends more wisely than that. I am going to assume that your friends just really love talking about their friends and the fun times they have – so much that perhaps they forget the people around them. That's adorable in one sense, but it's also something you would expect in an elementary school lunchroom. Elementary school kids get a pass, grownups should know better. Fortunately, they have a friend like you who can gently and diplomatically guide them toward the light. I'm sure you go to great pains to fill in the other people at the table about what your friends are talking about by interjecting with informative asides and by asking your friends annoyingly obvious questions. Stay the course. I feel confident they'll come around.

a SHOT in the DARK

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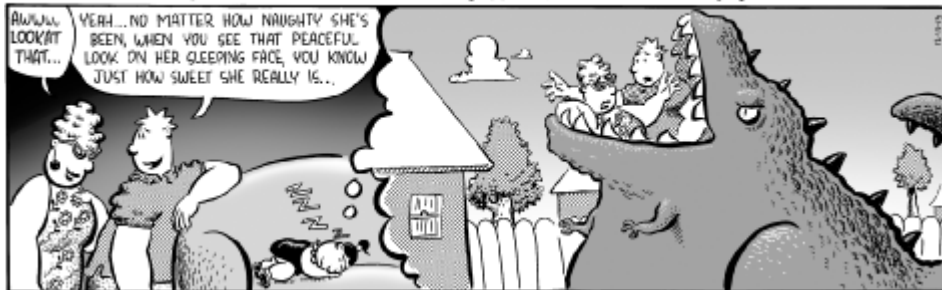
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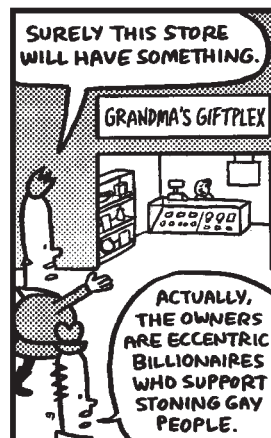
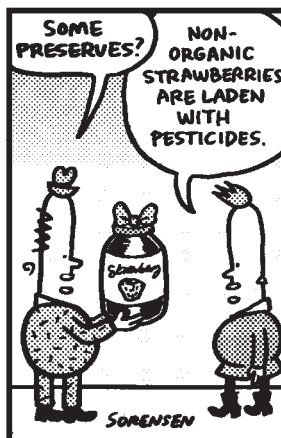
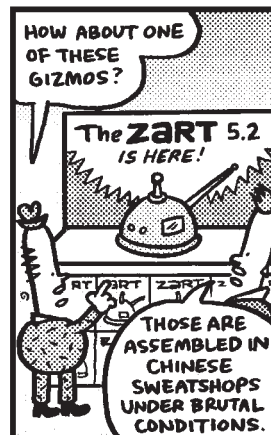
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EYE BEAM (w/ QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE) by Sam Hurst



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MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

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Baseball player Ted Williams was half Mexican, a fact he tried to hide most of his life.

According to @whatifnumbers, most of the water in your soda has never been in another soda, but almost all of it has been drunk by at least one dinosaur.



At left is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or email mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

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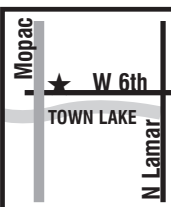
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LEGAL

Application has been made with The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer Retail dealer's on premise license by Blue Crystal SEC Inc. DBA Senior Billiard Club at 15803 Windermere Dr # 206 Pflugerville TX 78660, Travis County. Dan Nguyen is president.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit to be held by The Original Hoffbrau, Inc. dba The Hoffbrau located at 613 W 6th Street, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78701. President/Secretary of said company is Zachary Ray.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit and a Beer Retail Dealer's Off Premise License by Miss Murphy Spirits, LLC dba "Warehouse Liquors" to be located at 2424 South First Street, Austin, Texas. Officer of said corporation is Katharine Murphy.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit, and Beer Retailer's Off Premise Permit by Georgie's All American LLC, dba All American Discount Liquors to be located at 411 Brazos St. Ste. 100, Austin, Travis County, TX 78701. Officers are Abraham George, member.

CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-13-001620
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Gerald Thomas Hurley, Deceased, were issued on December 3, 2013, in Cause Number C-1-PB-13-001620, in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas to Michael Brendan Taeg Hurley. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows: Michael Brendan Taeg Hurley, Estate of Gerald Thomas Hurley, Deceased c/o Jordan T. Cybert 1016 MoPac Circle, Suite 101 Austin, Texas 78746 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time prescribed by law. DATED this 6th day of December, 2013. Cybert Law Firm, PLLC By: /s/ Jordan T. Cybert State Bar No. 24058391 Attorney for Independent Administrator 1016 MoPac Circle, Suite 101 Austin, Texas 78746 (512) 535-5008 Telephone (512) 692-7131 Facsimile

CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-13-001879
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of William Heil, Deceased, were issued on November 5, 2013, in Cause Number C-1-PB-13-001879, in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas to Louise Duval. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows: Louise Duval, Estate of William Heil, Deceased c/o Jordan T. Cybert 1016 MoPac Circle, Suite 101 Austin, Texas 78746 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time prescribed by law. DATED this 6th day of December, 2013. Cybert Law Firm, PLLC By: /s/ Jordan T. Cybert State Bar No. 24058391 Attorney for Independent Administrator 1016 MoPac Circle, Suite 101 Austin, Texas 78746 (512) 535-5008 Telephone (512) 692-7131 Facsimile

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - CIVIL Cause No. 2012DCV-2915-G
THE STATE OF TEXAS
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you." TO: **Billy Robbins**, Defendant, GREETING: You are commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the plaintiff's petition at or before 10:00 A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday 16th day of December, 2013, at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M., before the Honorable 319th District Court of Nueces County at the Courthouse in Corpus Christi, Texas. Said Original Petition was filed on the 27th day of June, 2012. The file number of said suit being No. **2012DCV-2915-G**. The name of the parties in the said suit are: **Mayan Council of Co-Owners, Inc. vs. Billy Robbins, Great Texas Sports Inc** The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: Mayan Council Of Co-owners V. Billy Robbins Aka Great Texas Sports Inc. Lawsuit For Delinquent Home Owner Assessment And Maintenance Fees Totaling \$20,918.39 In The 319 District Court Of Nueces County, Texas. Issued and given under my

hand and seal of said Court at Corpus Christi, Texas, this the **31st day of October, 2013**. **PATSY PEREZ** District Clerk Nueces County, Texas By /s/ SUBRONZE LUCAS DEPUTY

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-000708
TO: **BRIANNE LEE BRENISER**, II, Respondent Father of the subject Child, Azalea Sky Morgenstern-Breniser, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable District Court, 126th Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the First Amended Petition in a Suit Affecting the Parent Child Relationship-Termination Petition and/or Managing Conservatorship and Affidavit of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 5th day of March, 2013, against the Respondent Father, **BRIANNE LEE BRENISER**, II, and said suit being number D-1-FM-13-000708, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Azalea Sky Morgenstern-Breniser, a Child," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as Managing Conservator of the children, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Azalea Sky Morgenstern-Breniser June 21, 2010 Place of Birth Bell County Texas The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Children's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Children's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 4th day of December, 2013. **AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA** Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ DEPUTY REQUESTED BY: **KASEY M. WHITE** ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9662 State Bar No. 24042147 FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ATTN: Denise Dubose (512) 854-9662

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-003259
TO: **PEDRO ELEODORO HERRERA HERRERA** and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment

may be taken against you. YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 419TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND MOTION FOR DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCY filed in said court on JUNE 12, 2013, and said suit being number D-1-FM-13-003259 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF JOSIAS ISIDRO HERRERA AGUILAR, A CHILD". The nature of said suit is a request to appoint managing and possessory conservators. The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 05, 2013. **AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA** Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701 By /s/ FERNANDEZ JAMES A, Deputy REQUESTED BY: **TANIA KARINA WARD** THE BERNARDO KOHLER CENTER, INC. P O BOX 42185 AUSTIN, TX 78704 BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 831-4272 FAX: (512) 661-0326

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-006472
To: **CLARISSA SEDWICK** and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 419TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the AN APPLICATION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER OF JACQUELINE RENE HARRISON Petitioner(s), filed in said court on NOVEMBER 19, 2013, against **CLARISSA SEDWICK** Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-13-006472 the docket of said Court, and entitled "FOR THE PROTECTION OF JACQUELINE RENE HARRISON J.H A MINOR CHILD", the nature of said suit is a request AN APPLICATION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 27, 2013. **AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA** Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701 By /s/ FERNANDEZ JAMES

A, Deputy REQUESTED BY: **DONALD P MOREHART** 316 W 12TH ST STE 313 AUSTIN, TX 78701-1820 BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 551-0404 FAX: (512) 551-0405

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF **SAMUEL FRANCIS MCKINNEY** Deceased, No. C-1-PB-13-002131 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. **SARAH MCKINNEY** AND ALL The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed in Probate Court No. 1, Heman Marion Sweett Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on December 03, 2013, an Application to Determine Heirship AND for letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said **SAMUEL FRANCIS MCKINNEY**, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 03, 2013. **Dana DeBeauvoir** County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. BOX 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325 By Deputy: /s/ **ABRAM GONZALEZ**

D-1-GV-00-000571 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-00-000571, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 14 are plaintiffs, and Paul Mathieson, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Paul Mathieson are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$13,088.32** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 22, 2012. I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 7, Resubdivision of Tract No. 33 of Lake Travis Subdivision, Plat No. 4/140 as described in Volume 3016, Page 1320 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$13,088.32** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day

of November, 2013. **CARLOS B. LOPEZ**, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-11-000820 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 419TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-11-000820, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Jonestown, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Mark Eaves, Mark Patterson (In Rem Only) and Frances Patterson (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Billing Number: 67917 = \$2,884.19 and Billing Number 67918 = \$12,650.54** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 419TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 2, 2011. I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Billing Number: 67917 Lot 722, Jonestown Hills-Unit 6, Plat No. 19/90, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document number 2008122429 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas** **Billing Number: 67918 Lot 723, Jonestown Hills-Unit 6, Plat No. 19/90, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document number 2008122429 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Billing Number: 67917 = \$2,884.19 and Billing Number 67918 = \$12,650.54** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. **CARLOS B. LOPEZ**, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-000412 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-000412, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 14 are plaintiffs, and Lei Laney a/k/a Leila Marie Laney n/k/a Leila Marie Mauney, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lei Laney a/k/a Leila Marie Laney n/k/a Leila Marie Mauney are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,687.84** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the

NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-11-001017 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-11-001017, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Don D. Ford III, Dependent Administrator of the Estate of Michael John Wimble, Deceased, Sean M. Wimble, Robert Alan Benson (In Rem Only), Yasseman Benson a/k/a Yasseman Moayed Benson (In Rem Only) and United States of America/ Internal Revenue Service (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$17,155.68** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 2, 2012. I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **5.162 acre tract out of Lot 30, Panoramic Hills, Plat No. 38/50 as described in Volume 13362, Page 1368 and Probate Cause No. C1-PB-09-001699 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$17,155.68** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. **CARLOS B. LOPEZ**, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-000412 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-000412, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 14 are plaintiffs, and Lei Laney a/k/a Leila Marie Laney n/k/a Leila Marie Mauney, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lei Laney a/k/a Leila Marie Laney n/k/a Leila Marie Mauney are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,687.84** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the

98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 8, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 11, Resubdivision of Tract No. 33 of Lake Travis Subdivision No. 9, Plat No. 4/140 as described in Volume 3902, Page 1370 and Volume 6755, Page 1884 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,687.84** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001249 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001249, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No.1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Russell Carrow and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Billing Number 821341 = \$6,430.09 and Billing Number 821342 = \$6,630.60** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 21, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Billing Number: 821341 Lot 4, Block 1, Round Mountain Oaks Revision of a Portion of Lot 44, Plat No. 200700139 as described in Document number 2008037907 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** **Billing Number: 821342 Lot 3, Block 1, Round Mountain Oaks Revision of a Portion of Lot 44, Plat No. 200700139 as described in Document number 2008037907 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Billing Number 821341 = \$6,430.09 and Billing Number 821342 = \$6,630.60** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said

suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001261 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001261, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Jonestown, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Phil Mockford, Trustee are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,163.32** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 13, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lots 13 and 14, Jonestown Hills-Unit No. 3, Plat No. 14/2 as described in Document number 2007003036 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,163.32** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001268 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001268, wherein

Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Charles A. Plato and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$15,384.01** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 23, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 87, Leander Hills, Section 2, Plat No. 85/73A as described in Document number 2007028059 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$15,384.01** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001298 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001298, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Thelma Denman, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, assigns, successors and heirs of the Estate of Thelma Denman and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$14,495.14** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 23, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 6, Block 6, St. John's Home Addition, Plat No. 4/42 as described in Volume 652, Page 518 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$14,495.14** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said

suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001309 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001309, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and William A. House are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,339.18** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 7, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 168B, Resubdivision of Lots 168, 169 and 170, Sandy Creek Ranches, Phase Five, Plat No. 66/67 as described in Document number 2001019529 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,339.18** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001533 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001533, wherein Travis County, Travis County

Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Leroy H. Davis, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Leroy H. Davis and Dorothy M. Davis, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Dorothy M. Davis are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$8,852.28** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 19, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 114, Sandy Creek Ranches, Phase Six, Plat No. 66/68 as described in Document number 2002237805 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,852.28** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001546 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001546, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Jonestown, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Olan Dwayne Poteet are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,040.79** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 27, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November,

2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lots 27 and 28, Unit No. 4 Addition to Jonestown Hills, Plat No. 14/29 as described in Document number 1999077172 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,040.79** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001558 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001558, wherein City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Manor Independent School District and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Art Collection, Inc., Dynamic Finance Corporation (In Rem Only), Propel Financial Services, LLC (In Rem Only) and Longaro & Clarke, L.P. (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$8,693.61** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 17, 2013. I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **3.553 acres, more or less, out Margarito Castro Sur. 50, being that 63.279 acre tract as described in Document number 2003229900, Save and Except that portion of the 63.279 acre tract as conveyed in Document number 2003234940 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made

by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,693.61** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302541 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of

the 353RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered GV-302541, wherein Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Peggy Jean Marbut (In Rem Only), if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Peggy Jean Marbut, Sally Finley Cox, State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,801.03** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 22, 2011. I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest

AV0115 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

JANUARY 15, 2014 @ 9:30 AM @ SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 8200 S. CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX 78745

135052103		KAWA	MC			JKAEXVD197A104230
135055706	1992	HOND	4DR	BV5S167	TX	1HGCB7658NA106296
135054445	1991	MAZD	LL	9RMK19	TX	4F2CU44X4MUM09200
135054446	1991	TOYT	VN	RVY050	OR	JT3AC21S1M0007900
135054441	2003	NISS	4DR	CJT5829	TX	JN1DA31A83T429741
135053855	2011	ROKE	MS	4MG348	TX	LYDTCXPF1B1500128
135053853	1998	VOLK	4DR	CRX279	TX	WWWMA63BOWE165069
135053679	1997	NISS	4DR	663MLZ	TX	JN1CA21D2VT818586
135053849	2000	NISS	LL	843WLX	TX	JN8AR07S6VW397339
135053469	1982	LINC	2DR	ZXW38L	TX	1MRBP95FXCY609315
133210674	1994	CHEV	PK	AK41413	TX	1GCEC14HORE201464
135053845	2005	TOYT	4DR	SHUHALRCA		1NXBR32E35Z415866
135050971	2004	CHEV	LL			1GNC513W3W2211923
135048779	1998	HOND	4DR	404FMZ	TX	1HGCG3259WA014812

the COMMON LAW

by Luke Ellis will return on the FIRST THURSDAY of EVERY MONTH

Until then, here's an *uncommon* law that you may need to be aware of:

Horses in Fountain Inn, S.C., are required to wear pants when they appear in public.

austinchronicle.com DECEMBER 13, 2013 THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE 93

NOTICES cont.

bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 14-4, Leander Hills, Plat No. 83/109A as described in Document number 2004142583 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,801.03** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. **CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS** BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS. GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER,0615801VSF, 8200 S CONGRESS , AUSTIN, TX. 78745. (512)441-7094. 2009 MOPED LAEAG- Z4019B910802 23660 2008 MOPED LJ4TKC-PB98Y076237 171.65

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VESSEL PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE ON JANUARY 15 2014 at 10AM AT STORAGE FACILITY: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER 0615801VSF, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX. 78745. 512-441-7094. 1970 SEARS BOAT WITH EVERNUDE MOTOR AND 1964 SEAR TRAILER

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation: **NO PARKING ON IMPERIAL DRIVE SOUTH IN PRECINCT ONE.** Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE PS Orangeco, Inc. hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards. **NO CHECKS,** with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The prop-

erty will be sold on the 27th of DECEMBER 2013 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE. NO SMOKING, PLEASE. Friday, December 27, 2013. 9:30 a.m. Public Storage @9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748**

0076- Meeachern, Glen Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 0412 - Robertson, John Boxes / Bags / Totes 0416 - Hesselrode, Armenta Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture 0423 - Dorson, Austin Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 0433 - DELACRUZ, DANITA Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 0486 - Theard, Brian Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys 0553 - Lynch, Abigailye Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys 10:30a.m. **Public Storage @ 7200 S 1st Street. Austin, TX 78745** A110 - Van, Renelle Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Tools B043 - cleveland, monicea Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Tools C079 - Hernandez, Rico Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools M401 - Hernandez, Eric Appliances N410 - Tabor, Dorothy Books / Files / Cabinets; Furniture; Toys N425 - Chinni, Stacie Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools R537 - Brown, Andrea Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture T596 - Reyes, Joel Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools T601 - Honc, Alan Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools V741 - Freeland, Chelsea Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools V766 - Harris, Meredith Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 11:30 a.m. **Public Storage @ 7112 South Congress, Austin, TX 78745** B28 - Horton, Antonio Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture B38 - Davis, Kevin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C1 - EARLY, TIFFANY Bedding / Clothing; Electronics / Computers D15 - Hidalgo, Cheyenne Boxes / Bags / Totes D25 - Johnson, Gladys Boxes / Bags / Totes E38 - Escovedo, Christy Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture E6 - MATA, DIEGO Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture F10 - Dozier, Michelle Boxes / Bags / Totes J55 - Varela-Fernandez, Claudia Bedding / Clothing; Electronics / Computers; Furniture M74 - Crawford, Randy Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture 12:30 p.m. **Public Storage @ 4202 Santiago, Austin, TX 78745** 151 - Lugo, Ronnie Boxes / Bags / Totes 222 - White, Allen Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 457 - White, Tameka Boxes / Bags / Totes 545 - Lewis, Amy Boxes / Bags / Totes 640 - Collins, Alice Boxes / Bags / Totes

1:30 p.m. **Public Storage @ 2301 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741** 2068 - Molina, Veronica Bedding / Clothing; Furniture 2160 - Medina, Natalie Furniture 2:00 p.m. **Public Storage @ 5016 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741** B049 - Birdsell, Chance Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C093 - Cimes, tanesha Bedding / Clothing; Boxes /

Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools C112 - Merritt, Kari Boxes / Bags / Totes C143 - Martinez, Janet Boxes / Bags / Totes C159 - Solis, Raymond Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools C207 - Williams(Rodriguez), Cynthia Boxes / Bags / Totes C317 - Lemus, Ana Furniture C321 - Tyrone, Ruby Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C354 - Harris, Nannette Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools P001 - Baker, Darrin Vehicles / Boats 3:00 p.m. **Public Storage @ 2121 S IH 35, Austin, TX 78741** 3120 - Williams, Ciara Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 4130 - tulcus, michael Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 4157 - Mitchell, Robert Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 3:30 p.m. **Public Storage @ 5220 W. Hwy 290, Austin, TX 78736** 2226 - Johnston, Greg Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Ch 59 of the Texas Property code, Stow Away Storage located at 2051 Lohmann Spur, Lakeway, TX 78734 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord lien. Auction will take place on Jan 3, 2013 at 11:00 am. Property will be sold to the highest bidder and includes household items from the following tenants: Austin Waterscape Design-shelving, equipment; Canos Total Yard-care; Don Hillin-furniture, golf clubs; Brian Howard-freezer; Douglas Ramsey-grill, shelves; Jamie Yesenik; Renee Rider; Edward Kimbrell-equipment; Philip Stewart-white 1988 BMW 5is; Mel Kurth; Annamarie Rowlan-file cabinets; Darleen Valentine-yard signs; aceauncocompany.com K. Wares #16014

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CATHERINE JACOB MACLAUGHLIN. DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002029, styled Estate of Catherine Jacob MacLaughlin, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on December 3, 2013, to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of the attorneys at the following address: c/o GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation Attn: Patricia A. Campbell P.O. Box 98 401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098 All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED December 4, 2013. GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation P.O. Box 98 401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098 512.480.5625 Telephone 512.480.5825 Fax By: /s/ Patricia A. Campbell State Bar ID No.: 037114100 ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ERNESTINE STORY CARR Notice is hereby given that on November 26, 2013, David W. Carr was issued original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ernestine Story Carr, deceased, Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001993, now pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to William C. Pollard, Attorney for David W. Carr, Independent Executor for the Estate of Ernestine Story Carr

c/o William C. Pollard 800 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Estate of David Randall Keeler) Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of David Randall Keeler, Deceased were issued on December 5, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002071, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: Janet Kassahn Keeler. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: Janet Kassahn Keeler Representative, Estate of David Randall Keeler, Deceased 300 Lisa Drive Austin, Texas 78733

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is given that Letters Testamentary were issued to JAMES ARTHUR SMITH on November 26, 2013 in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002002, styled "The Estate of KATSUKO N. SMITH, also known as KATSUKO SMITH, Deceased", pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All claims should be addressed in care of JAMES ARTHUR SMITH, Independent Executor of the Estate of KATSUKO N. SMITH, also known as KATSUKO SMITH, Deceased at 102 Castle Drive, Hutto, Texas 78634.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Erlinda Bravo Cacapit, Deceased, were issued on December 05, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002066, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: David Keith Richardson. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: Mitchell & Colmenero, LLP 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 607 Austin, Texas 78701 DATED December 5, 2013. Mitchell & Colmenero, LLP 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 607 Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 322-0500 Fax: (512) 322-0900 Attorneys for David Keith Richardson By: /s/ Jedd L. Segrist State Bar No. 24041893

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James J. Tal- lent, Deceased, were issued to James A. Tallent, domiciled in and residing at 21015 Kathy Lane, Spicewood, Travis County, Texas 78669, on November 26, 2013, by the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002033, which is still pending, and that the Executor now holds such Letters Testamentary. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: Josie Margaglione Margaglione Law, PLLC 20808-B W. Highway 71 Spicewood, TX 78669 /s/ Josie Margaglione Attorney for James A. Tallent State Bar No.: 24057661 Margaglione Law, PLLC 20808-B W. Highway 71 Spicewood, TX 78669 Telephone: (512) 215-4439 Facsimile: (512) 532-6085 Email: josie@margaglionelaw.com Dated December 4, 2013.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Julia Gillespie Collins, Deceased, were issued on December 3, 2013, in Docket No. C-1-PB-13-001944, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to:

James Henderson Collins. The address of the Independent Executor is in Austin, Travis County, Texas, the mailing address is: c/o Scofield & Scofield, P.C., 1411 West Avenue, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78701-1537. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 3rd day of December, 2013. Scofield & Scofield, P.C. By: /s/ Frank E. Scofield

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Malcolm Robin Minnick, Deceased, were issued on December 5, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001081, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Meleah Brooks Mills. The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address: c/o Barnes Lipscomb Stewart & Ott PLLC Attorneys at Law 2901 Bee Caves Road, Box D Austin, Texas 78746 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 5th day of December, 2013. /s/ Barbara J. Lipscomb Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RITA M. MORAN, Deceased, were issued on December 6, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001908, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: Kathleen Eileen Lounsbury and Patricia Ellen Gaydos. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Kathleen Eileen Lounsbury and Patricia Ellen Gaydos Independent Co-Executors c/o: Daniel Loveland 17300 Henderson Pass, Suite 240 San Antonio, Texas 78232 DATED the 9th day of December, 2013. /s/ Daniel Loveland Attorney for Kathleen Eileen Lounsbury and Patricia Ellen Gaydos State Bar No: 12606500 17300 Henderson Pass, Suite 240 San Antonio, TX 78232 Telephone: (210) 495-0700 Facsimile: (210) 495-0706

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On December 3, 2013, Thomas Phil Francis and Phyllis Francis Baker nka Phyllis Waddle qualified as Independent Co-Executors without bond of the Estate of Frances Cobble Lindsay, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001996 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Independent Co-Executors is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th, Suite 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law. Thomas Phil Francis and Phyllis Francis Baker nka Phyllis Waddle Independent Co-Executors of the Estate of Frances Cobble Lindsay

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the **Travis County Jail ("TCJ") Extended Life Projects – Phase II, IFB No. B1311-007-JE** (Travis County Jail Exhaust System-General Building Renewal 244270 and Kitchen Commercial Renewal No. 238693), IFB No. **B1311-007-JE**, a project consisting primarily of the removal of the existing exhaust system; installing new

roof-mounted energy recovery ventilators; and installing a new isolation cell exhaust system and accessories, electrical modifications and associated Controls into existing building automation systems for the Travis County Jail located at 500 West 10th Street, Austin, Texas 78701 in Travis County, are to be received electronically through **www.bidsync.com**. Bids will be accepted **until 2:00 P. M. CST, January 2, 2014**, then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked **"Sealed Bid: TCJ Extended Life Projects – Phase II, IFB No. B1311-007-JE"** at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 700 Lavaca Street, Ste. 800, Austin, TX 78701. **NOTE:** The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids. You may print the Bid Documents from **www.bidsync.com** or they can be obtained in the Travis County Purchasing Office. Hard copies (printed) of the Bid Documents, Specifications-Volume 1 and Plan Sheets-Volume 2, may be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County". The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms listed in the bid package.

IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH **WWW.BIDSYNC.COM**, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE. Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing. Project performance period is **180 calendar days**. IF THE CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN THE CALENDAR DAYS SPECIFIED, **LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OF \$100.00 PER CALENDAR DAY OF DELAY WILL BE ASSESSED**. Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards. The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened. **Estimated Project Cost Range:** \$900,000.00 to \$1,100,000.00.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items: 1. Independent Representative/

Compliance Architect (IR/CA) Services for the Design-Build Development of a New Travis County Civil and Family Court House, Q1309-006-JT Opens: January 15, 2014 @ 2:00 PM **A PRE-SUBMISSION CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 18, 2013 @ 2:30 P.M. AT THE TRAVIS COUNTY CONFERENCE ROOM (B) 1.113, 700 LAVACA 1ST FLOOR, AUSTIN TEXAS 78701 IT IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED THAT AN INDIVIDUAL FROM RESPONDENT'S FIRM ATTEND.** Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 800, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

PUBLIC AUCTION Pursuant To Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, A1 U-Store-It which is located at 4632 S. Lamar Blvd Austin,Tx will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale will be held at 9:00am on Saturday December 21, 2013. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and withdraw the property from sale. Property in each unit will be sold by unit. Erin Klave, A69- Household items, Furniture Kim Foster, B8 - Household items, Furniture

STOR SELF STORAGE In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below: And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property, and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only! **Stor Self Storage, 2508 W. Pecan St, Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-990-1000 December 31, 2013 1:30 PM** Jyn Nyambo - Luggage, sofa/ chairs, crib, metal headboard, dining chairs, wall art, clothes/ shoes, office furniture Maria Macias - Box springs, pots/pans, karaoke machine, luggage, dresser, ladder, weed eater, boxes

WATTINGER COMPANY, INC. is soliciting bids from all certified MBE/WBE subcontractors and suppliers for the following project: Riata Vista Phase II Shell Bldgs, CP & Garage. Bid date is December 12, 2013 @2:00 p.m. Our phone number is (512) 282-0616, fax is (512) 282-5405.

NOTICE 'Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless propose to collocate antennae at 115 feet on an existing 101 foot building. The site location is, 812 1/2 San Antonio Street, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78701, 30o 16' 19.51"N, 97o 44' 47.65"W. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30-days from the date of this publication to: Terracon Consultants, Inc., Nicole Jordan, 11600 Lilburn Park Road, St. Louis, MO 63146, (314) 692-5599 or nvjordan@terracon.com.'

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezсны for December 13-19

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There are pregnant truths I could reveal to you right now that I've decided not to disclose. I don't think you're prepared to hear them yet. If I told you what they are, you wouldn't be receptive or able to register their full meaning; you might even misinterpret them. It is possible, however, that you could evolve rather quickly in the next two weeks. So let's see if I can nudge you in the direction of getting the experiences necessary to become ready. Meditate on what parts of you are immature or underdeveloped – aspects that may one day be skilled and gracious, but are not yet. I bet that once you identify what needs ripening, you will expedite the ripening. And then you will become ready to welcome the pregnant truths.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "Finifugal" is a rarely used English adjective that I need to invoke in order to provide you with the proper horoscope. It refers to someone who avoids or dislikes endings – like a child who doesn't want a bedtime story to conclude, or an adult who's in denial about how it's finally time to wrap up long-unfinished business. You can't afford to be finifugal in the coming days, Capricorn. This is the tail end of your cycle. It won't be healthy for you to shun climaxes and denouements. (Neither will it be wise to merely tolerate them. Somehow, you've got to find a way to love and embrace them. (p.s. That's the best strategy for ensuring the slow-motion eruption of vibrant beginnings after your birthday.)

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): According to 20th century British author John Cowper Powys, "A bookshop is ... a dynamite-shed, a drugstore of poisons, a bar of intoxicants, a den of opiates, an island of sirens." He didn't mean that literally, of course. He was referring to the fact that the words contained in books can inflame and enthrall the imagination. I think you will be wise to seek out that level of arousal in the coming weeks, Aquarius. Your thoughts need to be aired out and rearranged. Your feelings are crying out for strenuous exercise, including some pure, primal catharses. Do whatever it takes to make sure that happens.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "I am not fearless," says Mexican journalist and women's right advocate Lydia Cacho, "but I'm not overtaken by fear. Fear is quite an interesting animal. It's like a pet. If you mistreat it, it will bite, but if you understand it and accept it in your house, it might protect you." This is an excellent time to work on transforming your fright reflexes, Pisces. You have just the right kind of power over them: strong and crafty and dynamic, but not grandiose or cocky or delusional. You're ready to make your fears serve you, not drain you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected President of the United States four times, more than any other president. We can conclude that he was one of the most popular American leaders ever. And yet he never won a majority of the votes cast by the citizens of his home county in New York. I foresee the possibility of a comparable development in your life. You may be more successful working on the big picture than you are in your immediate situation. It could be easier for you to maneuver when you're not dealing with familiar, up close matters. What's outside your circle might be more attracted to your influence than what's nearer to home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In 2009, actress Sandra Bullock starred in three films, two of which earned her major recognition. For her performance in *All About Steve*, she was given a Golden Raspberry Award for Worst Actress. Her work in *The Blind Side*, on the other hand, won her an Oscar for Best Actress. I'm thinking that you may experience a similar paradox in the coming days, Taurus. Some of your efforts might be denigrated, while others are praised. It may even be the case that you're criticized and applauded for the same damn thing. How to respond? Learn from Bullock's example. She gave gracious acceptance speeches at the awards ceremonies for both the Golden Raspberry and the Oscar.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Almost 2,000 years ago, a Roman doctor named Scribonius Largus developed recipes for three different kinds of toothpaste. One contained the ashes of burned-up deer antler, aromatic resin from an evergreen shrub known as mastic, and a rare mineral called sal ammoniac. His second toothpaste was a mix of barley flour, vinegar, honey, and rock salt. Then there was the third: sun-dried radish blended with finely ground glass. Let's get a bit rowdy here and propose that these three toothpastes have metaphorical resemblances to the life choices in front of you right now. I'm going to suggest you go with the second option. At the very least, avoid the third.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Are you feeling a bit pinched, parched, and prickly? Given the limitations you've had to wrestle with lately, I wouldn't be surprised if you were. Even though you have passed some of the sneaky tests and solved some of the itchy riddles you've been compelled to deal with, they have no doubt contributed to the pinched, parched prickliness. Now what can be done to help you recover your verve? I'm thinking that all you will have to do is respond smartly to the succulent temptations that life will bring your way in the coming weeks.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Have you ever situated yourself between two big bonfires on a beach and basked in the primal power? Was there a special moment in your past when you found yourself sitting between two charismatic people you loved and admired, soaking up the life-giving radiance they exuded? Did you ever read a book that filled you with exaltation as you listened to music that thrilled your soul? These are the kinds of experiences I hope you seek out in the coming week. I'd love to see you get nourished stereophonically by rich sources of excitement.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Mythically speaking, this would be a propitious time for you to make an offering to the sea goddess. In dreams or meditations or fantasies, I suggest you dive down into the depths, find the supreme feminine power in her natural habitat, and give her a special gift. Show her how smart you are in the way you express love, or tell her exactly how you will honor her wisdom in the future. If she is receptive, you may even ask her for a favor. Maybe she'll be willing to assist you in accessing the deep feelings that haven't been fully available to you. Or perhaps she will teach you how to make conscious the secrets you have been keeping from yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't linger in a doorway, Libra. Don't camp out in a threshold or get stuck in the middle of anything. I understand your caution, considering the fact that life is presenting you with such paradoxical clues. But if you remain ambivalent too much longer, you may obstruct the influx of more definitive information. The best way to generate the clarity and attract the help you need will be to make a decisive move – either in or out, either forward or backward, either up or down.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "It's a rare person who wants to hear what he doesn't want to hear," said TV talk show host Dick Cavett. I will love it if you make yourself one of those rare types in the coming week, Scorpio. Can you bring yourself to be receptive to truths that might be disruptive? Are you willing to send out an invitation to the world, asking to be shown revelations that contradict your fixed theories and foregone conclusions? If you do this hard work, I promise that you will be granted a brainstorm and a breakthrough. You might also be given a new reason to brag.

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